

THE Hongkong Weekly Press

AND China Overland Trade Report.

Vol. LI.]

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, 23RD JUNE, 1900.

No. 25

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BIRTH.

On the 17th June, at the Hongkong Hotel, the wife of H. HAYNES, of a son.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The French mail of the 13th May arrived, per M. M. steamer *Sydney*, on the 16th June (41 days); the American mail of the 19th May arrived, per T. K. K. steamer *America Maru*, on the 16th June (28 days); the Canadian mail of the 28th May arrived, per C. P. R. steamer *Empress of India*, on the 19th June (22 days); and the English mail of the 25th May arrived, per P. & O. steamer *Valetta*, on the 22nd June (28 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

Sir Alexander Swettenham left Singapore for Labuan on the 8th inst. and is expected to be away for a fortnight, during which time the Hon. W. Egerton will act as deputy.

Sir Frank Swettenham, after his severe attack of fever at Weihaiwei, proceeded to Shanghai on the 12th inst. and left for London by the *City of Rio de Janeiro* on the following day.

On Monday, the 18th instant, the Taku Forts opened fire on the combined fleets of the Powers, without giving any warning. The fleets thereupon bombarded the Forts which were finally captured. The losses were given at first as follows:—Killed, 1 British, 1 French, 3 Germans, 16 Russians; Wounded, 4 British, 1 French, 7 Germans, 45 Russians. The British and Russian losses were subsequently corrected to:—Killed, British 1, Russians 17; Wounded, British 13, Russians 70. H.M.S. *Whiting* received an unburst shell in her boiler and proceeded to Nagasaki for repairs. The *Algerine* was also reported damaged, but no particulars are to hand. The Russian boats *Giljak* and *Korevets* were seriously injured. The Chinese flagship was detained by the combined Admirals, and some Chinese torpedo-boats were reported captured. Fully authenticated news of Admiral Seymour's arrival in Peking had not arrived on the 22nd inst., though many telegrams to that effect had been received.

The Shanghai Police authorities intend to equip a certain number of Chinese for the purpose of training them as soldiers for the protection of the Settlement in case of trouble.

Five Japanese officers have arrived in Germany to do service in the German army for military training. Four are to study military science, as they intend to become instructors of the Japanese army after their return, while the fifth is to do service in the German field artillery. At present no less than twenty-seven Japanese officers are attached to the German army.

A Seoul despatch to the *Osaka Asahi* states that a telegram was received by the Korean Government on the 10th inst., from the Korean Minister at Tokyo, announcing that he had informed Prince Li Shun-yo that he was charged with treason, and that the Prince replied that he would proceed home to answer the charge. This is causing some anxiety among the followers of the late Tai-won-Kun, it is said.

M. Pavloff, the Russian Minister, was to have an audience with the Emperor of Corea on June 13th. A Seoul despatch mentions a report that the memorial addressed to the Emperor by Mr. Sands, the adviser to the Imperial House, contained some references which might be taken as insulting to Russia. The business upon which the Russian Minister had obtained an audience with the Emperor is unknown, however.

Sir Henry Blake was to inspect the Sugamo prison in Tokyo on the afternoon of the 13th inst. On the following day Sir Henry and Lady Blake were to pay a visit to the Court, accompanied by the British Chargé d'Affairs and the aide-de-camp to the Governor and to be received in audience by the Emperor and Empress of Japan. The Governor will return to Hongkong a few days earlier than he originally intended. He will probably come by the M. M. *Laos*, which is expected to arrive on Sunday, 1st July.

A telegram was received from Shanghai on the 21st inst. to the effect:—"Pioneer" arrived at Chungking after 72 steaming hours." The *Woodcock* and *Woodlark* at the beginning of May, it will be remembered, only took 69 steaming hours, though owing to an accident to the *Woodlark* 33 days were occupied in the trip. As far as we know Mr. Archibald Little's boat was more fortunate than the *Woodlark*. Now that the possibility of getting up to Chungking in reasonable time has been demonstrated, a great impetus may be expected for the river trade—that is, when all fear of rioting is past.

A native correspondent telegraphed from Nanking on the 11th to the *N.-C. Daily News*, to the following effect:—Viceroy Liu has received telegraphic instructions from Peking to be prepared to resist by force British warships entering the Yangtze in large numbers, as it is feared that as soon as it is learnt that Russia will help China, Great Britain will at once seize the Yangtze Valley. A corps of 10,000 foreign-drilled troops have also been requisitioned from Viceroy Liu to proceed overland to the North. Viceroy Chang Chih-tung of Wuchang has also been instructed to act in conjunction with Viceroy Liu for the defence of the Yangtze valley.

A telegram from Yunnan-fu was received in Chungking on the 10th inst. to the following effect:—In consequence of a telegram from the French Minister, the French missionaries and officials are leaving immediately. A crisis seems imminent. The French Consul advises all (foreigners) to leave.

The Indian force which is being sent to China consists of 1st Bengal Lancers, 1st Madras Pioneers, 22nd Bombay infantry, 24th Punjab infantry, 1st Sikhs and 7th Bengal infantry, one field battery and one Company of Sappers. Two of the regiments will do garrison duty, it is expected, at Hongkong.

H.M.S. *Terrible* left Hongkong on the 16th instant at 10 a.m. for Taku with 300 of the Welsh Fusiliers and Royal Engineers on board. She was followed by the *Undaunted*, which left the harbour in the afternoon of the same day. On the 18th the *Daphne* also sailed for the North. H.M.S. *Bonaventure* arrived on the morning of the 19th and was at once got ready to depart. H.M.S. *Rosario* left on the 21st. The torpedo boat destroyers *Hart* and *Handy*, it is understood, are also being got ready. On the 22nd H.M.S. *Pique* and *Otter* arrived from Singapore.

The most important news contained in the despatches to the Japanese vernacular papers is the murder of an official in the Japanese Legation just outside Peking. The fullest account of the affair is in a Tientsin despatch to the *Osaka Asahi*. From this it appears that the unfortunate man, by name Sugiyama Hin, was instructed to meet the Japanese marines on their entry into Peking. He set out, apparently alone, for Machopoo, a station just outside the City walls, and when he reached the Winking Gate—one of the seven gates of Peking—he was attacked by some horsemen under General Tong Fu-shao and murdered. It is reported that the Japanese Minister immediately on receiving the news made a representation to the Tsungli Yamen, who sent a guard to the scene of the murder. Whether any further action was taken by the Japanese Minister does not appear.

The *N. C. Daily News* says that the leading members of the Reform Party residing in Shanghai, representing no less than fourteen of the eighteen provinces of China, have drawn up a petition addressed to the Chief Secretaries of State of Great Britain, the United States, and Japan, praying that the three Powers will unite and oppose any action of the other Treaty Powers pointing towards any division of the Empire; that efforts be made to rescue His Majesty Kwang Hsu from the hands of the Empress Dowager and her reactionary advisers through whose conduct the present troubles are alone due; and that His Majesty may be assisted in selecting a new capital of the empire where a Reform Government may be inaugurated. This, the petitioners claim, is the only means of restoring order and peace throughout China, which, so long as the Empress Dowager and her advisers are in power, will never happen. Finally the loyalty and patriotism of the people of China had been much strengthened by the Reform decrees enacted in 1898, hence the masses are most anxious to see the Emperor restored to power and independence.

AFFAIRS IN CHINA.

(Daily Press, 18th June.)

By the events at Peking recorded in the telegram received in this colony on Saturday the Chinese Imperial Government stands now irretrievably compromised in the eyes of the world. Any lingering doubts which there may have been as to the attitude of the rulers of the empire have been removed by the unchecked rioting, incendiarism, and murder in the capital. The question whether the Imperial troops have already come into conflict or not with Admiral SEYMOUR on the Tientsin-Peking railway has lost much of its importance. By the license allowed to the "Boxers" the side taken by the Chinese army is sufficiently shown. But the news received yesterday, that Admiral SEYMOUR's force was practically cut off by the enemy and, even if not actually fighting for its life, was at least without the much needed provisions, makes the situation very grave indeed. The dangers attending the despatch of a comparatively small vanguard into the heart of the hostile district seem to have been underestimated. Possibly it was hoped that the train would get through to Peking before serious opposition could be offered. Events have, however, turned out far otherwise. We are, it is to be feared, likely to receive scanty news for some time from the scene of operations. Communication broke down on Saturday morning, and immediately after a crop of most alarming rumours began to be circulated. A report was current in the afternoon that the German Minister had been killed at Peking, but careful enquiries failed to discover the origin of the story, which may therefore apparently be dismissed as an effort of someone's imagination. The report of the bombarding of the Taku Forts by the fleets of the Powers hardly seems to have a better foundation. In the meantime we are glad to see that preparations are being hastened on to put our forces in the north on a better footing. The *Terrible* and *Undaunted* have already left for Taku. The *Rosario* follows, and the *Bonaventure* immediately on her arrival here, which is expected to-day, will be got ready to start for the same destination. It seems, however, that any hope of getting vessels up to Tientsin must be abandoned, for according to a competent authority there were but a few days ago barely six feet of water in the upper reaches of the Peiho. In consequence, except in so far as they may be required against the Taku Forts, the warships will serve principally by supplying marines and guns for land service.

It may be noted that the *Times* a month ago, speaking in a leading article of the growth of the anti-foreign movement in China and the effect of the ascendancy of Russia at Peking on the internal politics of the empire, said that the situation was "the direct consequence of the coup d'Etat at Peking which wrecked the party of reform, destroyed the liberalizing influence of the Japanese, and affirmed the ascendancy of Russia at the centre of Chinese Government." "All these results," the *Times* continue, "were opposed to British interests, and ought to have been foreseen by those entrusted with the conduct of British policy. Nothing will be done to improve the condition of Europeans in China, to secure more efficient protection for British enterprise and British capital, and to make the policy of the 'open door' really effective until our Foreign Office shows that this country, not less than Russia, has a policy of its own, and means to stand by it, for the protection of British subjects. . . . The danger to Christians and foreigners in China is

"the direct consequence of the policy which has allowed the reactionary party to become triumphant at Peking and by which Russia has indirectly profited hitherto at the expense of Japan." All this unfortunately has been proved only too true by the events of this month. In the circumstances, all that can be done to remedy the ill effects of that British supineness to which all those interested in Anglo-Chinese affairs have so long and so vainly been calling attention is to act now with all possible promptitude. This seems to be realised at last by those in authority, and in spite of all annoying breakdowns, such as seem inseparable from military and naval preparations, there is cause for congratulation in the activity we see. We should like to hear that preparations were being made to turn part of the Indian Army to account in the crisis. With such excellent troops so near at hand there is no excuse for our running short of men in an emergency like the present. As it is, we are denuding Hongkong of men and guns as though there were no such place as Canton within ninety miles from the island—to say nothing of unsettled and turbulent districts adjoining our own New Territory. This is not a wise policy. We trust that all possible precautions will be taken pending the arrival of fresh military forces.

(Daily Press, 20th June.)

It will have been gathered from the news which reached us late on Monday night that a state of war now exists between China and the European Powers who are represented by war-vessels and troops at Taku and Tientsin. The formality of any declaration of war, however, seems to have been dispensed with by the Chinese, who as the brief despatches from the North announce, opened fire without warning on the combined fleets. This fact accounts for the numerous casualties, though to those acquainted with the strength of the Taku Forts the number will cause no surprise. From the losses which they suffered it would appear that the Russians bore the brunt of the fight, or at least that they had more vessels engaged. The absence of any Japanese among the killed and wounded may imply that no Japanese boats were engaged, though this seems curious; and there is no mention of the United States representatives either. Certainly the States and Japan are as much concerned as any of the other Powers, which makes it improbable that they took no part in the proceedings. In view of the advantage accruing from opening fire on an unprepared fleet (which the French fleet experienced at Foochow in the Franco-Chinese war when they wiped out the Chinese vessels, whose commanders protested that they had no reason to expect attack), the result of the fighting is eminently satisfactory to the combined forces, as in addition to the capture of the strong Peiho Forts a number of Chinese torpedo-boats have fallen into their hands. The next action, it may be taken, will be on land; it is to be hoped, very soon. The absence of news about Admiral SEYMOUR begins to be alarming. The most sanguine are trusting that he has forced his way through to Peking, but even his arrival there would not be sufficient to allay all fears as long as he remains cut off from Tientsin. The Legation guards were in a perilous position when we last had authentic intelligence from Peking, and though no doubt was felt that they could hold out against the Boxers it was admitted that against a combination of the Imperial troops and the rebels they would be in sore straits. The arrival of

Admiral SEYMOUR's 800 unprovisioned men would scarcely make matters better. But if he is actually surrounded somewhere between Tientsin and the capital, his situation must inspire still more anxiety.

Wisdom after the event is proverbially easy; but it certainly seems that the action of hurrying a body of less than a thousand men, provided only for a short journey, along a railway line whose security depended on the conduct of the admittedly wavering Chinese troops, is legitimately open to criticism. It is customary to speak of the slow-moving Chinese Government, but when a crisis arises it does not seem to find other nations prompt to move, unless indeed Russia is an exception. Russia indeed has far vaster resources closer at hand, but we are not after all the other side of the world. The objection to the use of the Weihaiwei Chinese Regiment, to which we allude elsewhere, is perhaps a sound one, for their value has hardly been sufficiently tested at present. But it was possible to have applied to Hongkong much earlier than was actually done; this not having been done (let us grant, owing to the authorities in the north being taken by surprise), the remedy did not lie in proceeding with insufficient force to attempt a task which called for more men. If it is a fact that the Admiral was unwilling to apply for military assistance, he was not therefore justified in risking the lives of his marines in a task beyond their power. The British Government, we learn from Mr. BRODRICK's statement in the House of Commons, is prepared to give the Admiral every assistance. Of course, had the urgency of the crisis been properly represented to it before, the Government would perforce have made the same declaration a fortnight or more ago, we should have had troops on the scene of action, and matters would not look so grave as they do now.

In another part of China it is perhaps not yet too late to take precautions before an outbreak occurs, and we trust that no time will be lost in preventing a surprise which will be humiliating to our reputation. We refer to the Yangtze region. We quoted yesterday a strong letter from Mr. W. V. DRUMMOND, appearing in a Shanghai contemporary, which most clearly represented our unpreparedness to meet an emergency in that part of China which Britain has long marked as peculiarly vital to her interests. Whatever preparations we can make for securing these interests are imperative now while it is still not too late. Now that at last public interest has been aroused in China and that the Government has some idea of what is at stake all possible influence should be used to prevent any catastrophe in central China. The task may be a hard one, but it is one which cannot be shirked, if we place any value on our position in the Far East.

It is stated that of 285 foreigners residing in the Yokohama Settlement and on the Bluff, under obligation to pay special house-tax, only 23 had paid the same to the City Office up to the 2nd inst. According to a Japanese native paper, the City Office is ready to take, without hesitation, final measures against the defaulters, in accordance with the provisions of the Regulations, if they persist in their present attitude. The *Kobe Chronicle* remarks:—"It seems to us very improbable that any action will be taken by the authorities until some arrangement is arrived at between the Treaty Powers concerned and the Japanese Government." The *Japan Mail* says that the objectors will, of course, be strengthened in their objection by the fact that the British Government has pronounced itself unable to endorse Japan's claim in respect of the house tax.

THE RIGHTS OF THE EMPIRE IN CHINA.

(Daily Press, 21st June.)

The fourth act of an exciting drama is well nigh completed, but before the curtain falls to the completion of the play, it is well to remember that much business remains to be got through. The capture of Johannesburg and occupation of Pretoria has changed the external aspect of the South African contest from a war, almost legitimate, to a guerilla strife; hereafter we cannot look with the same chivalrous eye on the struggles of a brave people for what they have called liberty—the right to oppress others more civilised than themselves. In the future any attempt at taking up arms will more and more partake of the ugly nature of rebellion, and that not only in the interests of humanity, but from those wider reasons of justice which have rendered the Government of the South African Republics a blot on the civilisation of the nineteenth century. One lesson of the war can, however, never be forgotten as long as the Empire lasts—and that is the unerring instinct with which the various portions of the Empire, of their own motion, at the very beginning grasped the true significance of the issues at stake; and recognised that although England was in the forefront the war was in its essence an Imperial, and not a mere British contest; and that on its satisfactory settlement rested the wider question of the well-being of the nation in its whole expanse. It is the penalty of greatness that it has ever to stand prepared to resist encroachment wherever attempted from the pole to the equator; the icy mountain chains of the Yukon equally with the burning uplands of the Soudan demand our anxious care. In no part of the world, however, are national interests becoming of more importance than along the coasts of the Pacific Ocean; and here, as in South Africa, these interests are not so much British as Imperial. Australia and New Zealand are essentially Pacific lands, but Canada herself has in British Columbia and Vancouver the strongest and most important outlook on the Ocean of any nation, the United States scarcely excepted. Australasia and Canada balance one another in the northern and southern seas respectively, and to each of them, even more than Great Britain herself, is the maintenance of British power and British prestige a matter of literally vital necessity. Twenty years ago we were accustomed to look with complacency, if not with pride on the position we had attained to in the Pacific; and had our statesmen only been able sufficiently to comprehend the importance of our interests in these regions, we might have continued to occupy the same leading position in which we were found on the death of Lord PALMERSTON. Unfortunately a later generation of statesmen have never been able to grasp the importance of the situation, and have little by little permitted the hold we had on the Far East to be whittled away; we need not recapitulate the story, it has often been told, but of late it has assumed an importance greater than ever. It was no chance circumstance that led the war with the South African Republics to meet with no good will on the Continent of Europe: it was indeed a challenge. The continental Powers had, in fact, been pursuing in South Africa the very same policy of encroachment that they have set in motion in Eastern Asia; fortunately they had stronger Englishmen to deal with, and in Sir ALFRED MILNER and Mr. CHAMBERLAIN the nation found more energetic defenders of its prestige than in our amiable and talented Prime Minister, who has made Eastern Asia his

chiefest care. To the continental Powers the successful issue of the Boer war indicates that the period for further encroachment in Africa has been indefinitely postponed, and from its very beginning their eyes have been assiduously turned to China and the rest of the Far East. Unfortunately the strange womanlike vagaries of the usurping Empress at Peking afforded them just that stepping stone which they in their heart of hearts most desired. Russia and France, of course, in this forward policy were hand and glove; but Germany was by no means indisposed to take her share of what a woman's folly might throw in her way. But Russia had in view further aims in which she did not intend her good friend France to have a part. With true Oriental persistency Afghanistan has preserved her character, and in nothing is this more marked than in her inability to get rid of that curse of Asiatic states—the impossibility of establishing rules for the succession. More than most Asiatic kingdoms, Afghanistan has suffered from this weakness, and in the present instance, when the life of the Ameer is known to hang almost by a thread, there is especial danger. There is no international code of honour that would prevent a foreign Power taking advantage of such an opportunity to foster her own ends, and Russia has long been intriguing with one or other of the claimants. Russia too, with a persistence that does her credit, has been pushing her railway system through the heart of Central Asia, and has now brought her lines into the neighbourhood of Herat, the northern gateway of Afghanistan; and, it is evident, intends to make use of her place of vantage to push her ends in India. It is quite possible that Russia has no ulterior end in view in India, but she has so far committed herself to a policy of absorption that it is more difficult for her to stand still than to advance; and recently, having extended her frontiers to China and Corea, she has been showing unwonted activity at Peking and Seoul. The situation is one that threatens a distinct danger to the Empire at large; it is not that Russia herself is more to be dreaded than at any previous period; but the danger is, that taking advantage of a temporary preoccupation she may contrive to create a diversion when the Empire is seriously engaged; and this on account of the retrogressive commercial policy of Russia is a matter of serious consideration, not for Great Britain and her colonies only, but for the whole of the civilised world. More especially are Canada and the United States deeply concerned in this new possibility. It is unfortunately the case that, owing to the recent *laissez faire* policy of the British Government, British subjects in China have been compelled to look on while the rest of the world were advancing everywhere along the line. In every department the Englishman finds himself hampered by his foreign neighbour, who has a sympathetic government at his back which does not fail to see that the road of advance for him is kept open. It is notorious that, even in the ordinary occurrences of the day, the Englishman is at a disadvantage; and this disadvantage is emphasised when it comes to larger issues. Mr. ST. JOHN BRODRICK stated a short time since in the House of Commons, that Englishmen had not taken up the concessions which they had acquired, and attempted to throw on the shoulders of private individuals, the blame really attaching to the Government. This attack, as unjust as it was ungenerous, has apparently had the opposite effect from that intended; for it had evidently had a deterrent result. The Peking Syndicate, as an instance in

point, found the English public unwilling to subscribe to its last issue; which was in consequence thrown back on the hands of the undertakers. It is not pretended that the individual Englishman has retrogressed; indeed the events of the Boer war prove him to be as ready as ever to come forward when he finds his Government in earnest. Whence then his apathy? We have no reason to disbelieve that it is the immediate result of the weak and listless policy that Lord SALISBURY has throughout pursued in China. When then the pacification of South Africa shall have been completed, some thousands of Australian and Canadian troops, not to speak of the home forces, will be set at liberty. These great Colonies are beginning to see how grievously their interests in the Great Ocean are being frittered away. It is impossible but that they should look to some profitable return for the services they have so freely rendered to the Empire.

THE GARRISON OF HONGKONG.

(Daily Press, 22nd June.)

It is eminently satisfactory to learn, on the authority of REUTER, that an expeditionary force is being despatched from India for service in China, that reinforcements are being sent out to the Fleet in these waters, and that arrangements have been made to station additional gun-boats in the Yangtze for the protection of the riverine Treaty ports. It may be of interest, likewise, to our readers to know that Colonel BOWER and 200 men of the Chinese Regiment have actually left Weihaiwei for Taku, after the various contradictory reports which we have received. It is also reassuring to hear that the Washington Government has ordered the despatch of three regiments of regular troops from Manila to Tientsin. With these the Anglo-American forces will be not less than 10,000 strong, after allowing for the detention in this Colony of two regiments of infantry, which we gather is the intention of the War Office. With reference to the latter item, it is only common prudence to reinforce the Garrison of this all important base. Already it has been weakened by the despatch to Taku of some 700 men, and though we are not at all disposed to cavil at the action of the Government in sending them to the assistance of Vice-Admiral SEYMOUR, it is obviously necessary that their places should be supplied as soon as possible. It may be objected by optimistic onlookers that, the provinces of South China being now practically quiet and unmoved—our Canton telegram bears witness to this—it is perfectly safe to leave the Colony with its reduced garrison to take care of itself. Quite possibly this could be done, and we hope the gallant troops who constitute its defenders would be able to give a good account of any number of undisciplined Chinese rioters. But in these days, with the political situation precarious everywhere, it would be extreme folly to leave anything to chance. Even in the piping times of peace the garrison of Hongkong should never be suffered to fall below five thousand of all arms, inasmuch as the Colony is more than three thousand miles from the nearest British base, India, and lies close to a populous empire, teeming with lawless and desperate characters, while its defences are, to say the least of it, inadequate and armed for the most part with obsolete guns. Being as it is, the great Naval Station for Eastern Asia, the visible centre of British power, and the commercial centre of South China, we have for many years past constantly insisted upon the immense importance of Hongkong and the necessity for it being constituted a first class fortress and place.

of arms. Not with a view to aggression in any form, for British interests will be best served by the maintenance intact, if that be possible, of the Chinese Empire. But for the defence of British trade and of the vast commercial and industrial interests which have grown up on this side of the world, it is necessary, absolutely necessary, that the Colony should be rendered impregnable to attack from outside, and capable, on an emergency such as has just occurred, of sending an expeditionary column for the protection of British subjects in Chinese ports, without materially weakening the garrison. To do this it is essential, as we have before pointed out, to maintain a garrison here of not less than five to six thousand troops, to station here at least one or two vessels for harbour defence, and to have the forts armed with the best and latest breech-loading guns. This is very far from the fact at present, so far, indeed, that the force recently despatched to the North had no effective field guns, and there are none at present in the Colony equal to those which even the Chinese could oppose to us. In the matter of guns the Colony, like the forces in South Africa, is disgracefully behind the age, and the fact constitutes a serious indictment of the War Office Administration. Now that the boundaries of the Colony have been so considerably enlarged, the necessity for an increased garrison has become accentuated, for in time of trouble with the Chinese it is quite conceivable that an attempt might be made by either soldiers or banditti to cross the frontier and lay waste British territory. We have, as a matter of fact, no security that bands of so-called Boxers may not be organised to invade the country and upset British authority. It is surely better to be in a position to forestall any attempt of the kind. The argument that Hongkong can never be a fortress of the character of Gibraltar or Malta is altogether foreign to the discussion. In some respects Hongkong is strategically even more important than the Mediterranean strongholds. Because it is further removed from sight and knowledge of the European world is no reason why it should be neglected. Its remoteness—it was until the acquisition of Weihaiwei the Ultima Thule of the Empire—is a patent argument in favour of its garrison being maintained at an efficient strength, for it cannot be reinforced in less than about three weeks even from India, and during that period much might happen—sufficient, perhaps, to account for its transference to another flag. It is high time now that the Imperial Government should give Hongkong the attention it deserves. A vital change has come over the political situation in China, and most of the great Powers of Europe are taking adequate steps to safeguard their interests as represented by their share in the trade with this great Empire, and Great Britain with her preponderating stake therein should not lag behind. Nor should the British Government fail to recognise the enormous advantage which the possession of such a naval and military base as Hongkong may be made confers. The juncture has now arrived for the recognition of this fact, and we trust that such recognition will not take the shape of half measures and temporary reinforcements. The necessity for an effective and permanent garrison cannot for a moment be disputed, and we trust the Government will, as in the case of the South African campaign, rise to the occasion.

Cholera is raging at Saigon. The percentage of deaths among the victims, according to the last estimate to hand, was 60.

THE COLONY AND PUBLIC MORALS.

(Daily Press, 19th June.)

For many years, the condition of the central and busiest parts of our city was a grave scandal. There was really not a single street, leading directly from the upper levels to Queen's Road, down which one could pass, even during broad day, without having the eye offended with sights, and—if a polyglot—the ear assailed with language such as would not be possible in the frequented parts of any great city in Europe, America, or the Colonies. Since the time when compulsory examination of women belonging to the "unfortunate" class ceased, matters had been steadily going from bad to worse. The control exercised was so slight, that the state of the place had become a by-word. The city was a veritable moral cesspool. Naval, Military, and Civil Medical reports support our assertion. We have much in our over-vaunted civilisation, of which we may justly be proud; but, in this respect at least, we lag far behind even the Chinese. It is not many years ago, since the whole of the houses of ill-fame that are patronised by Chinese were practically located in a confined area between the Tung-wa Hospital and our chief thoroughfare, the principal entrance to which, from the Queen's Road, is known as the *Tai Shui-háng*, (literally, the 'big drain or sewer, which actually exists there); and a native giving the order *Tai Shui-háng*, to a ricksha or chair coolie, was at once taken to this locality. During the past five or six years, so-called sly brothels had increased, even to the casual observer, with an alarming rapidity. They cast aside their wonted rook-like tendency to congregate in fixed places, and were invading parts hitherto free of their presence. They were to be found scattered about in all quarters, chiefly however towards the heart of the city. But one street, and the numerous lanes and alleys branching immediately off it, seemed to have an especial attraction for these social outcasts: we allude to the lower end of Aberdeen Street, from its junction with Hollywood Road, to the West of the Alice Memorial Hospital, down to Queen's Road. So much was this the case, that it soon acquired the nick-name of the *San Shui-háng*. Rents naturally went up to inordinate heights, and respectable Chinese families bitterly, but helplessly, complained of being ousted from dwellings they had occupied quietly for years. The character of the neighbourhood underwent a complete metamorphosis. The high-pitched tootling of the native flageolet, the alternate screeching and droning of the *sam-in*, together with the irritating monotonous falsetto of male singers, could be heard till the small hours, where once, save for the dreary cry of a stray tandem pair of blind fortune-telling beggar-women slowly feeling their way past the lantern-lit doorways of the dim streets, or the weary drawn-out call of some belated *tau-fu* seller, all was comparatively quiet after nine o'clock gun-fire. We wish to be neither prudish nor prurient. Houses of ill-fame, licensed or tolerated, blink the disquieting fact as we may, are a necessary adjunct of civilisation. The courtesan has been described by St. Augustine as needful, natural, and a part of the providential scheme of things. LECKY deems her the protectress of the virtue of her chaste sister; and somewhere or other, in his "History of European Morals," has an extremely eloquent passage, in which he asserts that our wives and daughters owe their immunity from assault, to the exis-

tence of public women in our midst. It is the woeful lack of control, however, which constitutes the scandal and the danger; and therein we are grievously at fault. As long as we are here directly governed from Downing Street, at the instigation of Mrs. GRUNDY and her shrill-shrieking sisterhood, so long shall we unfortunately continue to suffer on this lamentable score. Our hands are tightly tied. This regrettable want of regulation of vice has been the subject of annual complaint for some years past, in the official report of Mr. J. H. STEWART LOCKHART, the Registrar General and Colonial Secretary. Mr. BREWIN, the Inspector of Schools, Dr. G. H. B. WRIGHT, the learned Head Master of Queen's College, and Mr. F. H. MAY, Captain Superintendent of Police, all bear concurrent testimony in their repeated denunciation of the same unsatisfactory state of affairs, because their different departments have, each and all, been directly or indirectly affected thereby. Ordinance No. 31, of 1899, The Women and Girls' Amendment Ordinance, gave to the Registrar General and to the Captain Superintendent of Police, powers which it was believed would largely counteract the evil above complained of. Early this year, acting on certain of its provisions, notice of removal was simultaneously given to the occupants of all the disreputable houses in the central portions of the city. They were directed to reside west of the Sailors' Home and the Pokfolum Road, and if going eastwards, were told to go beyond the Naval Yard. It was the summary eviction of the drones from the social hive. There was naturally a great outcry raised: the measure was so drastic, so thorough, and so unexpected. For several days, the lower sections of the city seemed to be engaged in nothing but house-moving. Landlords, in the extreme east and west, found their rent receipts suddenly doubled and trebled: they, of course, offered no objection to the new order of things. Whole rows of houses, out at Kennedy Town and its near vicinity, which had either been empty for years, or which had had tenants at nominal rentals, now let for altogether extravagant sums. Much hardship was wrought on many inoffensive people, but that was more or less unavoidable: on the other hand, a vast amount of good was effected. The middle of the city is now practically free once again, and it is possible for a lady in her chair to come from any of the roads on the heights, down into our main thoroughfare, to do her shopping, without the slightest fear of annoyance. It is a well-known fact that hundreds of native 'girls' have returned to Canton or Macao. There are, however, unmistakable signs in several districts that some of them have come back to their former haunts, have returned within the forbidden area. The full powers delegated to the Police authorities, by the Ordinance we have already named, are quite adequate to cope with such cases of trespass; and we sincerely hope that they will be instantly and effectively exercised wherever and whenever required.

When the railway is opened, as it will be in a very few months, to Korat, says the *Bangkok Times*, the goods traffic will not by any means be confined to paddy and cattle. Even the hill district will yield its quota of trade, for there are already four quarries opened near Klong Pai, and others are in prospect. The stone is a hard, fine-grained sandstone and is capable of taking on a very fine finish, and each quarry yields a different coloured stone. Stone of such quality is a new thing in Bangkok, and there is a prospect of a considerable trade. It is said that there is a marble quarry also.

THE EMPRESS DOWAGER.

[Contributed.]

The Empress Dowager of China is beginning to experience the effects of that Nemesis, which sooner or later attaches itself to those who have disregarded the rules which nature herself has placed for our guidance. The throne of an usurper is seldom a bed of roses; and the woman who has transgressed all laws, human and divine, who, in the pursuit of the lowest passions of human nature, poisoned her first charge in the person of the unhappy Tung Chi, and after setting up another Emperor whom she vainly hoped to make the creature of her crimes, has equally tried to remove him from her path, has now to learn that there is a Providence that shapes her ends, rough-hew them how she might.

Since that day in September 1898, when with the connivance of that other arch-enemy to his country, the ignoble Li Hung-chang, the well-meaning boy-Emperor Kwang Hsu was dethroned from the seat of his ancestors, and immured an unhappy prisoner in his own palace grounds, the usurper has probably not enjoyed a single hour of happiness. The great Viceroys, though they feared that greater evils might arise did they, even in the name of the Emperor, raise the standard of revolt, took care that the Dowager should recognise their detestation of the crime; the foreign Powers stood aloof from the intruding woman who had violated her trust; and Japan, when she was about to strike the final blow by ending the existence of the victim she had persecuted, boldly told her it would be at the peril of another war. These troubles perhaps were foreseen and accepted; they little affected her daily life, and as long as they did not, the Dowager was not a woman to be cast down by them. Worse, however, was in store; prisoner as he is the Emperor has not been without private friends who have been able to make the traitress's life a misery; in hourly dread of poison or assassination she moves about her palace, or wearied of life finds no better distraction from gnawing care than witnessing those interminable Chinese plays, one of which may last a week. Even here the work of her enemies has found its revenge in cutting off her paramour, the pretended eunuch Li, for whom in proportion to his worthlessness she seems to have entertained the nearest approach to affection of which she was capable. The use her lover made of his mistress's favours is only too well known; the Empire indeed was not rich enough to suffice his insatiable greed, and the amount he succeeded in piling up in a time of the Empire's sorest need is a fair indication of what China could do under even an ordinarily honest administration. Even this poor solace to a miserable existence was, however, to be denied to the wretched intruder; strong only for evil, the would-be Empress had not the power to preserve her own paramour—almost in her arms the lover was poisoned, and his mistress, knowing well his murderer, was yet afraid to strike. Next to the lover Li, her cousin Junglu was the object of this second Messalina's attentions. Actively assisting in the intrigue by which she suppressed the Emperor, Junglu became for a time the recipient of all the favours at the disposition of the Dowager. How this promotion was used the world is witness; all worthy officials, as far as the two could contrive, were got rid of, and their places filled with creatures of the palace. Junglu is a Manchu, but had never distinguished himself in any position. He and his mistress however conceived the idea of restoring to power the effete successors of the conquerors of three centuries ago, and Manchu officials, whose sole recommendation was the name they bore, were intruded into important positions in every province of the Empire. The attempt was, however, a failure, not from any want of will, but from the sheer incompetence of the intruding officials, who found themselves unequal to cope with the more astute Chinese with whom they came in contact. But even Junglu, subservient as he had been to the merest whim of the Dowager, found he had to draw the line at the aspirations of the pretended eunuch, who, not content with his private stealings, sought to exercise real government, and interfere in affairs of state between him and the Regent. Jealous of the

occult influence being brought to bear to secure his own degradation, the Prince, at last waking up to his own danger, determined to get rid of this shameful parasite; by what means it was done is unknown, but certainly the mock eunuch was one day taken suddenly ill, and after a few hours agony expired, and almost equally quickly was quietly interred. That there was little doubt that Junglu was concerned in the murder the Dowager felt, but she had made him too powerful to be able to act; unwisely she threatened him in her distress, and Junglu, too weak for open revenge, yet now too powerful to be left out of consideration, remains in that most dangerous of positions, a hated minister. Nor is this the last of the troubles gathering round the head of the guilty woman. With all the craft and the ambition of the vulgar upstart the woman is yet devoid of these instincts of government which are especially necessary for successful rule, when the occupant of a throne has no legitimate title to show. The Boy-Emperor had seen the folly of the feeble attempts that had been made by his predecessors to get rid of the bugbear of foreign ascendancy at Peking, and had noted that every attempt made by violence and fraud to get rid of the approaching danger had only had the effect of strengthening the yoke. At first it was only England, but as time progressed the more weighty hands of Russia and Germany began to press heavily. Owing to the entire absence of any military forces, a state of affairs largely brought about by the unblushing exactions and misappropriations of Li Hung-chang and the Dowager herself, he saw that China was in no position to carry on war, and that it would be wiser to follow the example of Japan, who in her weakness had set herself to reform the evils under which she was suffering. Japan had earned the respect of the world, and was now sufficiently strong to be reckoned with, while China was the sport of every wind. The Dowager and her henchman Li saw in this the end of their own power of embezzlement, and determined rather to follow out the old course, which placed no restraint on dishonesty; the people at large was to be made to believe itself anti-foreign, and a crusade was to be got up against foreign innovations. Such was the new policy to be adopted; it answered admirably the Dowager's views, and justified her reactionary measures. Everything was to be restored to its old position as in the days of Hienfeng and of all the things to be restored the sweetest in the woman's eyes of the intruding Empress were the abuses. Here was a chance for everyone to make himself rich at the expense of his neighbour: the signal was made and every official in the Empire knew that his time for enrichment had come; but he knew likewise that those above him had first to be served, and that his own existence depended on his ability to make good their demands. A word had however, to be found to bring in the people, and this was quickly discovered in inciting them in turn to the plunder of the foreigner, who, they were given to understand was robbing them of the fruits of the land. The Dowager Empress, too ignorant to understand the teachings of history, and too prejudiced to read aright the events of the last twenty years, lent her weight to the movement; officials in secret despatches were given to understand that it had her good-will, and that those who opposed it would be treated as enemies of their country. As in like appeals to the mob at all times the effect was rapid; when the mob found that their first outrages met with no disfavour from their official superiors, the love of blood and plunder for its own sake was not long in following, and the flame of disorder has quickly spread through the northern province. The process of bating missionaries was however slow; they were comparatively few in number and afforded little plunder. Christian converts there were in greater numbers, and some of them were wealthy enough to afford the temptation for plunder, and it was easy to cloak the love of plunder under the mask of patriotism. But even plundering Christians is apt to grow tedious, especially as there were not many rich men amongst them, and as their hand was in, it was simple to turn it against those who had committed the crime of having something to plunder. All this might have gone on indefinitely, but that these subversion principles have a habit of growing

beyond bounds, and the band of *I-Ho Chuan* absurdly given the name of "Boxers," has proved no exception. It has had the audacity to reach Peking itself and even to nestle under the eyes of the Dowager. But the institution which at a distance was faithfully carrying out the Empress's own views does not seem so pleasant when brought nearer her door. The *I-Ho Chuan* has in fact displayed some opinions so destructive of order in general, that even the Empress is beginning to find the power she has evoked is rapidly passing her feeble means of repression; she has in fact sown the wind, and is now reaping the whirl-wind. For the woman herself we have no regret; but what is to become of the unfortunate Empire she has so basely betrayed? Meanwhile we may ask with some pertinence which is our fleet doing? Danger is brewing all along the Yangtze. The crisis is grave, will probably be graver, and though we have done so far reasonably well with the forces at our disposition, we would like to see them considerably increased—both in men and vessels.

THE CRISIS IN CHINA.

"DAILY PRESS" SERVICE OF TELEGRAMS.

SHANGHAI, 15th June, 6.1 p.m.

The British Legation and mission buildings on the western hills outside Peking have been burnt down. The telegraph wires have stopped working at Tientsin.

SHANGHAI, 16th June, 11.5 a.m.

At Tientsin yesterday three chapels were burnt down in the native city. The railway line has received further damage. The natives are leaving foreign employ.

Peking on Thursday reported that the Boxers rose on Wednesday night, the 13th inst., and commenced burning the Roman Catholic Cathedral, the Protestant Mission buildings, and the Imperial Maritime Customs Mess, and killing hundreds of native Christians and foreigners' servants.

Further rioting is proceeding. It is feared that the Imperial troops intend to oppose Admiral Seymour's column.

SHANGHAI, 17th June, 4.59 p.m.

The Boxers have cut the railway behind Admiral Seymour's Column, stopping the provision train from reaching him. Telegraphic communication with Tientsin has stopped.

A Chinese report is circulated to the effect that Admiral Seymour's men are engaged with the Chinese Imperial troops.

It is reported that the China Merchants' Steam Navigation Co. intend to transfer their steamers to a neutral flag.

MANILA, 18th June, 10.32 a.m.

The Ninth Infantry has been ordered to proceed to China. More Marines are leaving Manila this week for the same destination.

SHANGHAI, 18th June, 3.40 p.m.

Chefoo reports that the combined fleets occupied Taku North Forts yesterday after exploding the magazine. H.M.S. *Algerine* was damaged, two officers and four men being wounded.

Japan and Russia are reported to be landing a large force of troops. All is quiet at Chefoo.

SHANGHAI, 18th June, 9.50 p.m.

The Forts on both sides of the Peiho River have been captured. The Chinese fired without warning. The losses were:—Killed, one British, one French, three Germans, sixteen Russians; Wounded, four British, one French, seven Germans, forty-five Russians. Chinese torpedo-boats have been seized.

The news to-night is that General Yu-lu has been degraded and ordered to submit

to the Board of Punishments. General Tung has been sent to the military post-roads.

SHANGHAI, 19th June, 10.50 a.m.

It is reported from Weihaiwei that H.M.S. *Peacock* yesterday took on board Captain W. M. Watson and one hundred men of the First Chinese Regiment for Taku.

Admiral Seymour is reported to be entirely surrounded by the Chinese.

Weihaiwei to-day reports that the despatch of the First Chinese Regiment has been cancelled.

SHANGHAI, 20th June, 11.50 a.m.

A reliable Chinese report states that the Legations at Peking were all right on Sunday and that Admiral Seymour has reached Peking.

SHANGHAI, 20th June, 9.40 p.m.

The United States Consul at Chefoo telegraphs that he has chartered a steamer to rescue the American and British missionaries in Western Shantung and Honan.

The French Consul telegraphs that the British Mission at Tsangchou has been looted and the missionaries conveyed to some unknown place by the Chinese General.

No authentic news has been yet received about Admiral Seymour and his column.

Shanghai, 21st June, 9.56 a.m.

H. M. S. *Orlando* takes Colonel Hamilton Bower and 200 of the First Chinese Regiment of Taku.

H. M. S. *Whiting* has gone to Nagasaki for repairs, an unburst shell having penetrated her boiler.

The Tsangchou missionaries have arrived at Weihaiwei.

Canton, 21st June, 6 p.m.

Canton is quiet, although there is a general state of unrest among foreigners and natives alike over Li Hung-chang's approaching departure. The Shameen Defence Corps has been reorganised and now consists of about 70 volunteers.

Li Hung-chang has notified the Consuls that he will leave Hongkong on Wednesday, the 27th instant, by the *Empress* steamer.

The Chinese officials expect no serious trouble in Canton. Li Hung-chang is holding them responsible during his absence for maintenance of order.

The United States *Don Juan de Austria* has arrived at Canton, and the French gunboat *Léon* is expected.

SUPREME COURT.

15th June.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

(BEFORE HIS HONOUR SIR JOHN CARRINGTON, C.M.G., CHIEF JUSTICE.)

DISPUTE AS TO A BUILDING CONTRACT.

His Lordship gave his decision in suit No. 958 of 1899, *Soo Sum and Bruce Shepherd, Official Receiver of the Estate of Pang Yam v. The Humphreys Estate and Finance Company, Limited*. The decision is as follows:—

The plaintiffs in this suit claim from the defendants the sum of \$1,000 under a contract for the erection of certain houses. The full claim is \$1,100, but there is a waiver of \$100 in order to enable the Plaintiffs to bring the suit in the summary jurisdiction of the Court.

By their answer the defendants set up several defences, but the only one which was seriously pressed was that by a prohibitory order made by this Court in its summary jurisdiction in Suit No. 101 of 1899, wherein Chan Yew Ting was plaintiff and Pang Yam was defendant, they were restrained from making payment of the above-mentioned sum of \$1,100 which was then

due under the building contract in question; that they thereupon, with the knowledge of the plaintiff *Soo Sum*, paid that sum into Court; and that such payment into Court was a good and valid payment of the sum and discharged them from further liability in respect thereof.

There was not much controversy at the hearing about the facts of the case, and it is sufficient to state them briefly.

On the 25th March, 1898, the defendants entered into a contract with the plaintiffs *Soo Sum* and *Pang Yam* for the erection of seven houses on Kowloon Inland Lot No. 540. For the purposes of the contract *Soo Sum* and *Pang Yam* assumed and used the firm name of *Sing Kee*. The buildings were to be completed by the 1st February, 1899, and the price to be paid by the defendants for their erection was \$18,500. Monthly payments were to be made by the defendants to the contractors upon the certificate of the architects for the defendants, Messrs. Palmer and Turner, at the rate of 80 per cent. upon the value of the work done, etc.

It appeared that the plaintiff *Soo Sum* financed the contract, while *Pang Yam* saw to the execution of the work under it. *Soo Sum* also deposited with the defendants the sum of \$2,000 as security for the due performance of the contract. Work was carried on under the contract and certificates were from time to time issued by the architects. These certificates were indorsed by *Soo Sum* and *Pang Yam* jointly, and the receipts and cheques for the sums so certified for were signed by them.

In the early part of the year 1899 *Pang Yam* got into financial difficulties, and on the 3rd February, 1899, *Chan Yew Ting* recovered judgment against him in Suit No. 101 of 1899 in the summary jurisdiction of this Court for the sum of \$1000 with costs of suit. On the 5th February 1899, a writ of execution was issued on this judgment, and on the same day the defendants were served with a prohibitory order restraining them from paying to *Pang Yam* or any one else "the sum of \$1,100 due by them to *Pang Yam* for the building of seven houses on Kowloon Inland Lot No. 540." On the following day Messrs. Palmer and Turner prepared a certificate—the fifth in the series—for \$2,100, and two cheques were signed by the defendants, one for \$1,000 to be paid to the contractors and the other for \$1,100 to be paid into Court under the prohibitory order. These cheques remained in the possession of Messrs. Palmer and Turner until the 24th April, 1899, because the plaintiff *Soo Sum* was not satisfied with this arrangement and refused to indorse the certificate. On that day the sixth certificate was issued, and the fifth certificate also appears to have been indorsed, and the cheque for \$1,000 was handed to the contractors. On the same day the cheque for \$1,100 was paid into Court under the prohibitory order. I am satisfied by the evidence before me that the plaintiff *Soo Sum* knew of this proposed arrangement, but that he was not in any way a consenting party to it; on the contrary, I find that he addressed protests both to the defendants and also to Messrs. Palmer and Turner against the payment of the \$1,100 into Court. I also find that this payment was made by the defendants voluntarily and not under any direction or pressure from the Court or its officers. I cannot help thinking that the whole of this trouble might have been avoided if the defendants had taken the obvious and sensible course of acquainting the Court with the fact that the debt in respect of which the prohibitory order was issued was not the sole debt of *Pang Yam* but was a debt due to him jointly with *Soo Sum*.

On the 7th September, 1899, a receiving order was made by the Supreme Court in bankruptcy in respect of the estate of *Pang Yam*.

On these facts it was contended by Mr. D'Almada for the plaintiffs that the whole of the proceedings on the prohibitory order were invalid since a debt due to a judgment debtor and another person jointly cannot be attached to answer the debts of the judgment debtor alone, and in support of this contention he relied on *Macdonald v. The Tacquah Gold Mines Company*, 13 Q. B. D. 535. On the other hand Mr. F. B. Deacon for the defendants argued that in paying the money in Court the defendants were, at any rate so far as the interest of *Pang Yam* was concerned, relieved from further liability by the provisions of section 76 (10) of

the Code of Civil Procedure. This enactment is in the following terms:—"In every case in which a debtor shall be prohibited from making payment of his debt to his creditor, he may pay the amount into Court, and such payment shall have the same effect as payment to the party entitled to receive the debt." He further said that the case of *Tse Lun v. The Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited*, decided by Mr. Justice Wise in this Court in November, 1897, on the construction of this enactment, was in point and should govern the decision of this case. I think it will be convenient in the first place to examine that decision and see whether it has the effect contended for. If this is so, I am of opinion that, sitting here for Mr. Justice Wise, I must follow his ruling.

In that case the defendants, being indebted to the plaintiff under a building contract, were served with a prohibitory order in respect of the sum of \$390.36, being money alleged to be due by the defendants under the same contract to a building firm bearing a name similar to that of the plaintiff's firm. The plaintiff informed the defendants that the money was not owing to that firm but to himself, and he objected to its being attached or paid into Court. However, the matter seems to have gone into Chambers, and the Acting Puisne Judge was stated to have made a verbal order that the money should be paid into Court, and it was paid in accordingly. Some months afterwards the defendants were served with a similar prohibitory order in respect of the sum of \$391.40. The plaintiff again informed the defendants that the money was not owing to the defendant in that suit but to himself. It is true that Mr. Osborne, the secretary of the defendant company, said that afterwards the plaintiff agreed that the money should be paid into Court, but the plaintiff denied this, and I can discover no finding of the Court on the point. The money was paid into Court. Some months afterwards the plaintiff brought a suit against the defendants to recover the two sums thus paid away from him, amounting together to \$781.76, but after argument the learned Judge held that the garnishee was absolved by section 76 (10) of the Code of Civil Procedure from all further liability by the payment into Court, and he gave judgment for the defendants. The plaintiff appealed to the Full Court against this decision, but the appeal went off on an objection taken by the defendants that it was out of time.

It will be observed that the case under examination differs from the present case in the fact that there one of the two payments into Court was made in pursuance of an order of the Court. But the learned Judge does not seem to have rested his decision on that ground, and that ground, at any rate, could only have affected one of the two payments—but he laid down the broad proposition that a garnishee, on being served with a prohibitory order, is absolved from further liability by paying into Court the money attached by the order.

In view of this ruling it would not serve any useful purpose to discuss the question whether in the present case the prohibitory order was rightly issued or could properly affect the debt, because the same question was raised to no purpose in the case under examination. Indeed, the case of *Macdonald v. The Tacquah Gold Mines Company supra*, which is now relied on for the plaintiff, was also cited for the then plaintiff in the course of the argument before Mr. Justice Wise.

I am of opinion that the ruling above mentioned is in point in the present case, and that sitting in the capacity which I fill at the moment, I am concluded by its authority. The result is that there must be judgment for the defendants, with costs.

18th June.

CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

BEFORE SIR JOHN CARRINGTON, Kt., C.M.G. (CHIEF JUSTICE).

DISCHARGED.

The Attorney-General (the Hon. W. Meigh Goodman) said that in the case of *Sun Yau Yee* he did not intend to file any information. He had considered the matter, and he did not think

the evidence was such his as he could ask His Lordship to convict upon.

The man was accordingly discharged.

THE ATTEMPTED MURDER AT SHAUKIWAN.

Chan On was charged with (1) wounding with intent to murder; (2) wounding. He pleaded not guilty.

The jurors were Messrs. C. H. A. von Arend, H. P. Wadman, E. A. Hill, J. Gregory, W. J. Wright, R. T. Wright and W. F. Gardner.

The Attorney-General said that the prisoner had lived with a woman named Fung Chat for about fifteen years. They were not married. Some time ago the prisoner went down to Singapore and remained there a long time, and it was highly probable that the woman got some other man to look after her while he was away. At all events on the 12th April last he returned to Hongkong. He met this woman and she went back with him and they lived together at Shaukiwan. On the night of the 26th May the woman seemed to have gone to the Theatre and she came home at four o'clock in the morning, when she turned into bed with another woman. Shortly afterwards the prisoner arrived, and he at once proceeded to chop at the woman with a chopper which he had bought, inflicting four wounds on the head. The woman called out "Save life" and rushed out of the house and into another house close by. The prisoner then went round to Shaukiwan Police Station, and told Inspector Robertson that he had tried to kill his wife, that she had escaped from the house, and that he did not think she would live. The Inspector accompanied the man to his house. On the Inspector asking where the chopper was someone replied that it was in the cockloft. It was fetched down and the prisoner himself handed it to Inspector Robertson, saying that that was the chopper that had "done it with," and that he paid 25 cents for it. The woman was sent to the Hospital and was not discharged until 7th June, when she gave evidence at the Magistracy. On that occasion the prisoner said, "I was drunk; I did not know what I was doing."

The evidence given at the Magistracy was repeated.

The prisoner was found guilty on the second count and sentenced to 12 months hard labour.

THE ARMED ROBBERY IN KOWLOON BAY.

Wong Kwai Yung, Yat, Wong Lam, Wong Tak, Lo Keng, Ko I, Wong Sang, Kwai Yung, and Chau Lit were charged with (1) robbery being armed; (2) receiving stolen goods.

The jurors were Messrs. H. M. Basto, F. E. C. Georg, A. C. More, C. G. Engel, C. H. Blason, S. H. Michall, and W. E. Rose.

The Attorney-General said that on the evening of the 18th of May three fishing junks—Nos. 2,507, 5,138, and 3,071—were anchored in Kowloon Bay at about ten o'clock when a boat, containing 14 or 15 men, came along the fish junk. Someone on board the junk called out, "What boat is that?" The men in the boat said something in reply, threatening what they would do if they did not be quiet. Then seven or ten men from the boat got on board the junk. Some of them were armed with knives and others with revolvers. Several shots were fired, one bullet striking the right foot of one of the men on the junk. After ransacking the first junk they did the same with the other two. On the police launch putting in an appearance they cleared away. Subsequently the surrounding villages were scoured by the police and the 11 prisoners were arrested.

The evidence for the prosecution was then proceeded with.

The prisoners were sentenced to seven years imprisonment and 20 strokes with the birch rod.

BEFORE THE HON. T. SERCOMBE SMITH (ACTING PUISNE JUDGE).

THE ARMED ROBBERY AT MA TAU WAI.

Li Hin, Chan Tam Ham, Mok I, and Lam Hoi were charged with (1) robbery being armed; (2) robbery being armed; (3) larceny. There was a further charge of larceny against the fourth defendant. They pleaded not guilty.

Mr. H. E. Pollock, who appeared for the prosecution, said the offences which formed the substance of this indictment were committed at a small village called Ma Tau Wai, which was near the former boundary between British and Chinese Kowloon, and was west of the road between Hunghom and Kowloon City. About 11

o'clock in the evening of the second of May three women were sleeping together in a house at No. 129, Tan Wai, when they saw about ten men come down into the room through a hole in the roof. Some of them carried lighted torches and one of the others carried a sword and another a revolver. The man with a revolver fired and threatened the inmates of the house. The men broke open certain boxes and seized certain property. After ransacking the house they seized one of the women and said to her "Now then, take us to your mother-in-law's." The woman being frightened took them to her mother-in-law's house at 35, Ma Tau Wai. This house was also ransacked, and the robbers decamped. Information was given to the police at Kowloon City Police Station, and from here the news was sent round by telephone to the other police stations. In consequence Sergeant Cameron and some Indian constables left their station at Hunghom, and on the road two men were arrested by the Sergeant and two by an Indian constable with some of the stolen property in their possession.

The evidence given at the Magistracy was repeated.

The prisoners were found guilty on all the counts and sentenced to seven years imprisonment.

THE HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

ELECTION OF A REPRESENTATIVE TO THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

A special general meeting of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce was held in the Chamber Rooms, City Hall, on Monday afternoon, the 18th inst., to nominate a member of the Chamber to take the place of the Hon. Herbert Smith on the Legislative Council during the absence on leave from the colony of the Hon. T. H. Whitehead. The Hon. R. M. Gray occupied the chair, and there were present:—Messrs. H. M. Bevis, A. Haupt, A. M. Marshall, R. L. Richardson, C. S. Sharp, N. A. Siebs (Committee), R. C. Wilcox (Secretary), R. Lemke, W. S. Bailey, G. H. Potts, P. Brewitt, D. R. Law, B. Byramjee, P. Sachse, D. Setna, Hon. C. P. Chater, C.M.G., Messrs. W. Danby, E. Shellim, V. H. Deacon, G. H. Medhurst, J. J. Francis, Q.C., H. W. Slade, D. Haskell, J. A. Mackay, Ho Fook, Ho Tung, J. Hindes, T. F. Hough, W. G. Humphreys, W. M. Watson, C. W. Dickson, H. J. Gedge, P. Jordan, J. H. Lewis, G. P. Lammert, D. R. Crawford, O. Wegener, F. Maitland, J. M. Beattie, G. Atzenroth, E. H. Hinds, Jas. McKie, A. E. Marty, Chan Kwai Cheong, F. Arjane, H. N. Mody, H. Price, H. Koek, E. C. Ray, A. H. Rennie, R. Fuhrmann, E. Robinson, R. Becker, D. M. Moses, A. J. Raymond, E. H. Melbye, G. C. Moxon, G. R. Stevens, Jun., G. Stewart, M. Mehta, Wong Fook, W. Melchers, J. C. Bergendahl, L. Berindogague, D. W. Craddock, W. J. Gresson, T. E. Sansom, G. L. Tomlin, W. Cruickshank, H. P. Wadman, H. Schottlander, G. T. Veitch, A. Shelton Hooper, D. Gillies, J. Thurburn, G. de Champeaux, G. W. F. Playfair, L. Suidter, W. G. Saunders, S. Choh, and C. L. Gorham.

The SECRETARY having read the notice convening the meeting,

The CHAIRMAN said it was hardly two months since the members of the Chamber were called together to nominate a gentleman to fill the vacancy on the Legislative Council caused by Mr. Whitehead's departure for home on leave, when they unanimously selected Mr. Herbert Smith. That gentleman had since quite unexpectedly resigned the seat, much to their regret, and left for England, and now they were called upon to elect another representative. After reading the letter from His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government, asking that a meeting of the Chamber should be called to fill up the vacancy, the Chairman continued:—I now have to propose as representative for this Chamber in the Legislative Council, during the absence of Mr. Whitehead, Mr. John Thurburn, (applause)—Manager of the Mercantile Bank of India, and I feel that it is not necessary for me to say more than a few words on his behalf. Mr. Thurburn has been in his present position here for over twenty years and is well known to you all. He has taken part in various commissions instituted by the Government, and has otherwise shown his interest in public mat-

ters on various occasions. He will, I am sure, speak out and to the point in Council, when he sees the necessity of doing so. My long experience on the Committee of this Chamber, and the interest I have taken in its proceedings I think entitle me to an expression of opinion—which is, that the present status and influence of this Chamber are due to its proceedings having been directed altogether by responsible men engaged in commerce. I am strongly of opinion that the plain unvarnished tale of a commercial man will do more to further your interest in the Legislative Council than any amount of rhetoric, and I, therefore, have now much pleasure in proposing, as your representative for the time being in the Legislative Council, Mr. John Thurburn. (Applause.)

Mr. C. W. DIXON, in seconding, said he endorsed all the remarks made by the Chairman in reference to Mr. Thurburn. From the position Mr. Thurburn had occupied in the colony for many years he was sure he was well aware of the requirements of the community and he considered him well fitted in every way to act as the representative of the Chamber on the Legislative Council. (Applause.)

Mr. G. W. F. PLAYFAIR said—I beg to propose that Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C., be elected to represent this chamber on the Legislative Council. For more years than most of us have resided here Mr. Francis has been closely identified with every public question in this colony and is eminently fitted to express the views of the Chamber. Your representative should be one who has not only a thorough grasp of our local politics but should also be one who can clearly and forcibly give expression to his views. In Mr. Francis the Chamber would have one whose natural eloquence and acquired logical training peculiarly fit him for the position for which I have the honour to solicit your votes. With the extremely limited popular representation which is vouchsafed to this colony it is all the more important that the Chamber's representative should be the best man to be got in the colony. He should be strong, thorough, honest, and earnest in his solicitude for the public weal. He should give hearty support and encouragement to the Government in all their efforts for the amelioration of the social and commercial conditions of this colony and should equally and fearlessly record his dissent should any action be taken contrary to the views of the community, and finally that he should be quick-witted, tactful, eloquent. All these qualities, gentlemen, I know you will find in Mr. Francis or I should not ask you, as I do now, to record your votes in his favour. (Applause.)

Mr. D. R. CRAWFORD, in seconding, said he had known Mr. Francis ever since he came into the colony, and that was a few months after he arrived himself. He had watched his career since that time. They wanted a man who could speak his mind forcibly, and because many of them thought they wanted a little fighting blood on the Council he had much pleasure in seconding Mr. Francis.

The CHAIRMAN—Has any other gentleman any candidate to propose? If not we will proceed at once to ballot.

Mr. FRANCIS asked leave to say a few words before the ballot. They were there to elect a representative in place of Mr. Herbert Smith, whose absence they all regretted very much. If this appointment was an honour, he asked them to confer that honour upon him, notwithstanding what his good friend the editor of the *China Mail* said in his Saturday's issue, and however grudgingly that gentleman admitted that he had done some service in the colony; if there were duties and responsibilities, not merely honour attached to the occupation of the post, he (Mr. Francis) placed himself confidently in their hands. (Applause) Mr. Francis then proceeded to detail his various qualifications for the honourable position. He did not agree with all that the Chairman had said about Mr. Thurburn. He did not know if ever Mr. Thurburn had taken part in any public question, or had spoken at any public meeting. He might be everything that Mr. Gray stated he was, but the main question for the Chamber was to appoint a man who would represent the public opinion of the colony on questions connected with finance, with the policy in China, with the policy of the Government in Hongkong, with local interests and in connection with legislation.

The ballot papers were then distributed, and on the votes being counted the CHAIRMAN read out the result as follows:—

Mr. Thurburn 52
Mr. Francis 28

He therefore declared Mr. Thurburn duly elected.

Mr. THURBURN, in acknowledging the compliment, said—Gentlemen, I have now only to thank you for the honour which you have done me in electing me as the representative of the Chamber on the Legislative Council. I have only got to say that I shall look after the interests of the Chamber to the best of my ability. I can do no more. I have nothing more to say. (Applause.)

The CHAIRMAN—That terminates the proceedings.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

On the 21st inst. a meeting of the Hong-kong Sanitary Board was held. The President (the Hon. R. D. Ormsby, Director of Public Works) occupied the chair, and there were also present the Vice-president (Dr. Lowson, Acting Principal Civil Medical Officer), Mr. F. J. Badeley (Acting Captain Superintendent of Police), Lieut.-Col. Ryan, Mr. J. McKie, Dr. Hartigan, Mr. E. Osborne, Dr. F. Clark (Medical Officer of Health), Mr. Fung Wa Chuen, Mr. Chan A Fook, and Mr. G. A. Woodcock (Secretary).

THE PROPOSED ASSISTANT MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

The following letter, dated June 8th, from the Acting Colonial Secretary, was submitted:—

"In reply to your letter No. 90 of the 26th ultimo, embodying a resolution of the Sanitary Board to the effect that an assistant Medical Officer of Health was urgently needed to assist the Medical Officer of Health in the performance of his duties, I am directed to inform that His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government has been pleased to recommend the appointment of such an Officer for the favourable consideration of the Secretary of State."

INTERNATIONAL SANITARY CONVENTION.

Papers dealing with the Venice International Sanitary Convention were submitted and the following minutes were appended:—

Dr. Clark:—"In view of the importance of this subject, I would recommend that these General Sanitary Regulations be translated and inserted in the *Government Gazette* for general information."

Dr. Lowson:—"I disagree with the M.O.H., as it would be money wasted."

Mr. McKie:—"I agree with the remark of the P.C.M.O."

Lieut.-Col. Ryan:—"I agree with the M.O.H.'s suggestion."

Dr. CLARK said that these regulations were the regulations at present in force in accordance with the Venice Convention for the Red Sea, the Mediterranean, and neighbourhood. It seemed to him that for the information of the shipping community of the colony it would perhaps be well if the regulations were published in the *Government Gazette*. If Mr. McKie as the representative of the shipping community thought they did not wish to know what these regulations were, then the matter was at an end; but he still thought—and he had gone through them again carefully that morning—that if the regulations were printed in the *Government Gazette* they would be of some use to the members of the community of this colony.

Lieut.-Col. RYAN was of the same opinion, adding that sometime ago the question cropped up as to the desirability of adopting the Venice convention.

Dr. CLARK—We have adopted it.

Lieut.-Col. RYAN said that in that case he thought it was essential that the regulations should be made known.

Mr. MCKIE agreed, but said that there was not a single sea captain who ever got a *Government Gazette*. Let the regulations be published if they liked, but let them be published in such a way that they would reach the fountain head.

Mr. BADELEY said that the regulations should be published in pamphlet form and distributed to the captains in the same way as the regulations of the Harbour Master.

Dr. CLARK moved that the Board recommend the Government to have the regulations

translated into English and published in the *Government Gazette* and copies supplied to the Harbour Office for the use of the shipping community.

Lieut.-Col. RYAN seconded and the motion was carried.

THE SUGGESTED REMOVAL OF THE PLAGUE CEMETERY.

The following letter, dated June 18th, from the Acting Colonial Secretary, was submitted:—

"I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 97 of the 13th inst., embodying the report of a sub-committee of the Board on the subject of the question of the removal elsewhere of the Plague Cemetery at Kennedy-town. In reply I am directed to inform you that Government is not in a position at present to lay out a Plague Cemetery at Lamma Island, and therefore proposes to defer the further consideration of the question, which will, however, not be lost sight of."

THE RESERVATION QUESTION.

Dr. CLARK moved:—"That the Board recommend the Government to extend the provisions of The European District Reservation Ordinance, No. 16 of 1888, to that portion of the Kowloon Peninsula which lies to the South of Austin Road." He observed that since he gave notice that he would move this resolution it had come to his knowledge that the Government had had the matter in hand and he believed that something was under consideration. Still, after talking the matter over with some members of the Board, it seemed to him that perhaps the hands of the Government would be strengthened if the Board, forwarded a resolution in the terms suggested by him. The area which he suggested should be reserved for European occupation was that portion of British Kowloon to the South of Austin Road. It was a very small portion even of old British Kowloon. It did not comprise more than 200 acres, and was less than one-eighth of the whole of what was formerly known as British Kowloon. The circumstance which brought this matter specially to his notice was a plan which he had before him, by which it was proposed to build 28 houses for occupation by Chinese upon the site of one European house which formerly was in the area which he had defined. The Government had been able to present the erection of Chinese houses upon the actual site of the European house, but at present there was nothing to prevent the erection of Chinese houses where the garden was. The pre-amble of the Ordinance providing for the reservation of a European district in the city of Victoria said:—"Whereas the health and comfort of Europeans in a tropical climate demand conditions which are inconsistent with the neighbourhood of houses crowded with occupants and otherwise used after the manner customary with the Chinese inhabitants, etc., it is desirable to reserve by law a district wherein such conditions may be secured." That summed up the whole question. It was wise of the Government to reserve some district where Europeans might live together and where they would not be exposed to such diseases as smallpox and plague by the contiguity of Chinese tenement houses. It so happened fortunately that almost the whole of the European houses were in the little area marked on the plan, and he was credibly informed by European residents in Kowloon that a short time ago a scheme was on foot to pull down a large number of these European houses and erect in their places Chinese houses. Therefore if action was to be taken it must be taken very promptly or it would be almost too late. The resolution if passed and the Ordinance if adopted would not apply to existing Chinese dwellings in the prescribed area.

Lieut.-Col. RYAN seconded.

Mr. OSBORNE remarked that this was no light matter which had been brought up. This portion of Kowloon Peninsula, although it had hitherto been occupied mainly by European dwellings, was undoubtedly intended in the future to be the business portion of the mainland. There must be congregated there in the future—if they were going to have any railway at all—the railway station, and shops and factories of all kinds, and if the Sanitary Board thought they could stay the tide of progress by the measures suggested by the Medical Officer they would find themselves mistaken. They were there not to legislate or advise legislation for

the comfort of people but for the health of the people, and it seemed to him that whether they were Chinese or whether they were Europeans it was their duty to see that they lived in a healthy state. If the Chinese houses proposed to be built on the site of this European house were insanitary, they ought not to pass the plan; but to say in this wholesale manner that no portion whatever of the Kowloon Peninsula should be occupied by artisans or workmen, but that the whole should be laid out in villa residences, might be very delightful, but it was utterly wrong economically. There were persons who had invested money in property there—persons who, like the shareholders of the company which he represented, had invested large sums of money for developing large trading concerns there. Without their employees living close at hand it would be impossible for them to carry on their business. This resolution if it was passed would mean that that part of Kowloon Peninsula indicated would be practically doomed from a business point of view.

The PRESIDENT—Do you propose any amendment?

Mr. OSBORNE—No.

Mr. FUNG WA CHUEN quite agreed with Mr. Osborne. He said that if they put restrictions down like this they must pay compensation to people. They would be simply interfering with private rights. Of course he liked to see fine houses everywhere, but, as Mr. Osborne had rightly pointed out, if the place was intended as a business place it was wrong to make these restrictions.

The PRESIDENT said that this matter had been receiving very careful consideration from the Government for some time, and it was likely to bear fruit. He was sorry the Medical Officer of Health had not restricted the area a little more, because he thought that west of Robinson Road it was impossible to do anything except with perhaps a small part bounded by Garden Road. If the area in question were in the hands of the Government the matter would be a simple one, but as a matter of fact nearly every square foot was out of the hands of Government. South of Austin Road was now in the hands of private individuals, although a great part had not been built over. He foresaw very great difficulties in the way of carrying this out.

On the motion being put to the vote it was carried.

THE RE-HOUSING QUESTION.

In compliance with the request of the Acting Colonial Secretary, the Secretary drew up a memorandum showing the powers of the Board for closing or otherwise dealing with insanitary property, the memorandum concluding as follows:—

"Briefly the Board can grant permits for the occupation of (a) basements, (b) cocklofts, (c) new buildings. The Board can enforce (a) the redrainage of houses, the drains of which have been found to be defective; (b) the concreting of the ground floor of surfaces where slopes are thrown; (c) a window area of one-tenth the floor area, not including a window of 10 square feet into the back-yard; (d) construction of a back-yard of 50 square feet or of an area of half of the kitchen; (e) limewashing tenement houses twice a year. The Board cannot close an insanitary building except during an epidemic, while a magistrate can at any time order its closure but its demolition."

The following minutes were appended:—

Dr. Clark:—"This only shows what I have so frequently urged during the past five years—that the Sanitary Legislation of this colony is even now more than 50 years behind the home enactments relating to cities. The Liverpool Sanitary Act of 1846 made the minimum width of streets 30 feet—here it is 15 feet—and stipulated that the height of any building should not exceed the width of the street on which it fronted. Here a building may even now be erected of a height of 40 feet fronting a lane of only 15 ft. 1 in. in height, and private streets have actually been set back an inch or two in order to make the street exceed the 15 feet limit, and so allow building to the height mentioned. I have pointed this out in my annual report for 1899 and in previous reports. The Liverpool Act of 1846 further provides that no court may be built as a cul-de-sac unless 25 feet in width. Here almost courts are cul-de-sacs and are under 15 feet in width, and the Liverpool Act further

requires that courts of a minimum width of 15 feet, opening at both ends for their full width upon a public street, may contain eight houses, and that for every house over this number one foot must be added to the width of the court. In 1889 the minimum width of new streets was extended to 36 feet and of courts to 30 feet, such courts to open at both ends on a public thoroughfare. The crying necessities of this colony in the way of Sanitary Legislation are:—(1) The curtailment of the excessive height of buildings in relation to the width of the streets upon which they front. (2) Power to condemn and to demolish insanitary houses and insanitary areas, such as is contained in the Imperial Housing of the Working Classes Act of 1800."

Dr. Lowson:—"The tinkering at Public Health Legislation has led to clumsy and cumbersome procedure, and the less public talk about this the better. One thing would do good—far more than most people would imagine at first—the amendment of s. 19 a, etc. 15/94, to the effect that on second conviction the Magistrate should demolish the house from top to bottom. That would bring people to their senses."

Lieut.-Col. Ryan:—"There is no doubt at all that the Board requires increased powers for dealing with insanitary property."

Mr. McKie:—"I agree with Lieut.-Col. Ryan."

Dr. Hartigan:—"Ditto, and also with Dr. Lowson. But it seems to me absurd to give the Board powers sanctioned by the Law Officers of the Crown which when the Board tries to give them effect (*vide* closing of premises unfit for habitation) are declared by those same officers to be illegal."

On the motion of Dr. CLARK, seconded by Dr. HARTIGAN, it was decided to return the papers to the Colonial Secretary, with copies of the members, in order that the views of the Board on the subject might be seen.

RABIES IN JAPAN.

Correspondence was submitted re the existence of rabies at Nagasaki, Yokohama, Kobe, Asaki, and Moji. The correspondence showed that the ports mentioned were free from rabies.

PLAGUE IN AMOY.

A letter from the British Consul at Amoy, and dated June 9th, said:—

"On the 5th inst. I had the honour to send you the following telegram: "Plague exists Amoy and vicinity. Not yet epidemic. Please notify Commodore. While I thought it my duty to advise you as above, I am glad to be able to report that, as far as we can at present judge, the plague in this district is far less prevalent and of a milder type than last year at a corresponding date."

LIMEWASHING RETURN.

In his fortnightly limewashing return, Mr J. H. Dandy (Chief Inspector of Nuisances) said:—

"The progress in the limewashing work this last week has been very slight, the Inspector on that duty having been in Hospital some days. The prosecution of defaulting owners has been vigorously carried on, 67 cases having been taken, the fines amounting to \$455. Three of the cases were dismissed. Though the Inspector in charge of limewashing is off duty the slow progress cannot be put down to that account, as the notices of intention, etc., that have accumulated in the office only cover 72 houses, and some of those are in the Central district."

THE PLAGUE IN MACAO.

The deaths in Macao for the week ended May 29th numbered 82 (including 39 from plague), week ended May 29th 100 (including 49 from plague), week ended June 2nd 84 (including 34 from plague), week ended June 9th 67 (including 20 from plague).

THE HEALTH OF THE COLONY.

The death rate for the colony for the week ended June 2nd was 36.4, against 35.2, for the previous week and 40.8 for the corresponding week last year. The rate for the corresponding week last year was 40.8. The rate for the following week was 27.5, against 39.5 for the corresponding week last year.

Dr. Hartigan minuted:—"Absence of fevers other than bubonic again noted."

THE REPORTED OUTBREAK OF CHOLERA IN SAIGON.

Dr. CLARK proposed that the Government be asked to enquire whether cholera was raging

in Saigon, as stated in the public press that morning. If the report were true vessels from there should be medically examined before communicating with the shore. It was a simple matter for the Government to make the enquiry.

Dr. LOWSON—I think you might include Bangkok as well.

Dr. Clark—Very well.

Lieut.-Col. Ryan seconded and the motion was carried.

This was all the business.

THE CRISIS IN THE NORTH.

THE DEPARTURE OF TROOPS FROM HONGKONG.

The *Hinsang*, which should have left the harbour on the 14th inst. did not actually start till one o'clock p.m. on the 15th inst. She left behind 200 men of the Hongkong Regiment, whom it was decided not to take owing to lack of proper accommodation, or because it was not thought good to reduce our garrison so much. These men will not therefore proceed to the north, as far as is at present arranged.

Numerous rumours were current in the city on the 16th inst. as to the state of affairs up north, some of these rumours being of an exceedingly startling character. For instance it was said that the German Minister at Peking had been murdered, that the foreign warships had smashed up the Taku Forts, and that all the foreigners in Peking had been put to death. Though fortunately all these stories remain unconfirmed it is well known that the Colonial Government received most disquieting news on the 16th inst. So much so that the *Undaunted*, which was to proceed home shortly, was despatched north with less than an hour's notice. Orders to get the sloop *Rosario* ready were also given, and it is expected that she will leave in the course of a day or two. The *Terrible* left the harbour at about ten a.m. on the 16th inst. with some 300 men of the Royal Welsh Fusiliers and Royal Engineers. The officers of the R. W. F. chosen for service are Major F. Morris, Captain J. H. Gwynne, Captain H. M. Richards, Lieutenant Rotherham, Lieut. O. S. Flower, (Acting Adjutant), Lieutenant F. J. Walwyn, and Second Lieut. O. S. Owen. Major Watson, of the R.A.M.C., also proceeds to the front.

The total forces taken out included 6 officers, 14 non-commissioned officers, 6 buglers, and 297 of the rank and file, Royal Welsh Fusiliers (2nd Battalion); one officer, one non-commissioned officer, a bugler and 18 rank and file of the Royal Engineers (25th Company), with 12 rank and file of the Hongkong Company; one officer, R.A.M.C.; with items from the Army Pay Department and Army Service Corps and hospital attendants.

AFFAIRS IN THE NORTH.

[FROM OUR TIENTSIN CORRESPONDENT.]

Tientsin, 12th June.

The Boxer nuisance, serious as it is in many aspects, has *pro tem* subsided into insignificance in comparison with the crisis in Peking. As railway communication has been broken for five or six days, we are at a loss to know exactly what were the facts which precipitated this crisis. Courier and water communication have not been resorted to on anything but a private scale for two reasons; everyone hourly expected the railway to be re-established and people have been too pre-occupied to attend to correspondence and courier. All we can gather from the curt telegrams which reach us very intermittently (the Chinese Telegraph authorities say the wires are cut; but we know this, that our messages get through) is that up to Sunday evening, 10th June, the evil feared had not happened, but that general feelings of suspense and anxiety were still intense. In Tientsin we are confident that what is feared is a meeting of the very indifferent troops and their collusion with the city *cavaille* to attack the Legations for loot. We do not know if the Boxers are in the reckoning or not. There are 600 foreign guards in the various Legations; all the out-lying residents have been called in to the centre and we know that all British and American women are under the direct protection of their Ministers in the big Fuhs.

THE IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT'S ATTITUDE.

The Imperial Chinese Government, if it deserves such a name, is still sitting on the wall,

metaphorically: incredible as it appears, quite 60 per cent. of the metropolitan mandarinates believes in the appalling nonsense of the Boxer propaganda—viz, that they are able and willing to sweep the hated foreigner, his religion, his institutions, his trade out of China. Men such as Prince Ching and Jung-lu know this to be rubbish; but the reactionaries who now have the facile ear of the Dowager are persuaded of it, and are promising to sing the *Nunc Dimittis* in a week or two, if the foreigners are expelled. Such men are Kang Yi, the Prince Tuan, the Duke Lang, Chee Sue Thu Tung and others. These fossil statesmen profess to regard the Taungli Yamen and the Peking University, and China's and foreign legations abroad as "devils" institutions. The despair of the situation consists in the fact that these colossi of ignorance and hatred are in a position to wreck their country; their removal, unless enlightenment comes to the Dowager from some unexpected source, is only possible at present by force; and without their removal nothing can be done. It is to be feared that even if the forces now *en route* are completely successful, their arrival will only be the beginning of a political *impasse* of which no one can see the end.

EUROPEAN AND AMERICAN ACTION.

But now for the facts of the last few days. The Ministers wired the Tientsin consuls and officers on Saturday that the situation was every hour increasingly critical: the messages got briefer, more intense and more alarming as they arrived at short intervals. There was a conference in which Col. Wogack urged delay till he could call a substantial force from Port Arthur. Consul Carles stood firm for no delay. He said, "Send for the Russian infantry if you like, but instantly make arrangements to land a multi-national force from the fleet at Taku." Capt. MacCalla of the U.S. *Newark* however settled the business. "Gentlemen, make what plans you like, but my orders are 'proceed at once to Peking' and to Peking I start to-morrow morning: if I cannot entrain there I walk, but to Peking I go." As usual the man of action settled the matter, and it was there and then arranged to send 300 men up (in addition to 600 and 700 already there) next morning.

At 11 p.m. the messages from Peking became very alarming. "Come at once, or you will be too late." This was flashed out fourteen miles to the Bar at midnight; within five hours, a flotilla of boats, launches, &c. brought in 1,550 men, with five days' rations 7.30 a.m. saw them in Tientsin by train. The Chinese here at first refused permission to entrain them for Peking: then the rolling stock was commandeered and off they went at 9 a.m. No platelayers or gangers went in the first train, but the resident engineer was able to get a crew for the second. The whole force reached Lo-fa for the first night (31 miles) and yesterday was past Lang Fang (40 miles). To-day we heard the Boxers ventured to attack this morning the engineer's squad of workmen engaged on relaying the plates and sleepers removed by the Boxers. They were under the protection of a small company of marines (Major Johnston). I will, to ensure accuracy quote the Admiral's despatch as summarized here. "Boxers tried to cut off our advanced guard of marines under Major Johnston, and a body of Engineers. They were soon driven off without casualty on our side, but some 60 Boxers were killed and others wounded. Several of the latter have been sent down to Tientsin." I hear that two or three of these wounded Boxers have died *en route*; the number of wounded is by some said to be six or seven, by others sixty or seventy—a typical illustration of the vagueness of all our Boxer news.

NAUTICAL LANGUAGE AND ITS EFFECT.

I must not forget to state that on Sunday, after the Admiral had started, Capt. Bailey, of H. M. S. *Aurora*, was left in command at Tientsin. One of the directors of the railway (Tong) tried to stop the entraining of an additional 600 men at mid-day, and unwisely asserted himself firmly. He is an English speaking self-important personage. The gallant captain gave him the finest dressing down on record to the intense amusement of a delighted crowd of blue-jackets, foreigners, and railway officials. After a peroration which consummated nautical ob-

jurgation, the station was cleared by the Germans and English at the point of the bayonet and the naval artificers got on the engine and drove out the train. Of course, when all this was done, the formal sanction of the Chinese arrived at the last moment.

LATER, 5 P.M.

ADMIRAL SEYMOUR WANTS NO MORE MEN.

The Admiral has wired that he has as many men as he needs: that the food and water difficulties en route are such that further reinforcements will only impede movements. This may possibly affect the movement of 1,700 Russians, just arrived from Port Arthur, who are only awaiting facilities for landing.

Our Peking advices of to-day are reassuring: nothing has happened yet. We have been very apprehensive of the effect of the news of the reinforcements being in the way, but up to date it has evidently had a steadying effect in the mob.

The private Peking letters to-day speak of 8,000 disaffected troops; this is a great drop from the 50,000 spoken of a day or two ago.

THE CONDITION OF TIENTSIN.

Tientsin is safe and the residents confident. We have formed a guard and practically our adult male population (300) is under arms. The sailors and marines are 600: field guns two, machine guns about a dozen. We hoped to have the honour of pricking the Boxer bubble, but now fear it will fall to the Admiral. The panic among the Chinese is indescribable and piteous. All export and import trade has ceased. Prices of food have been doubled, and all credit to natives has been stopped. Servants want wages paid daily. Many are leaving, and the washermen have all bolted except three. The native passenger traffic to Shanghai is wonderful.

We can only hope the reaction will be effective and rapid when it comes. It is enraging to reflect on the dislocation of trade, domestic life, &c., simply because half a dozen small administrators elect to support a pack of seditious blackguards in overt rebellion.

There is no news from Paoting-fu or Tung Chow beyond the fact that mission premises have been sacked and burned, and native Christians killed. As far as we know at present no more European lives have been sacrificed, but grave fears are held for small missions in outlying districts.

The coal pits at Tong Shan have a naval guard, but are also pretty safe, through the presence of 1,500 Cantonese who will side with the foreigners to a man, it is thought.

GENERAL NIEH AND THE BOXERS.

The following account from a Chinese official despatch describes the fight in the 5th inst. between Gen. Nieh's Chihli troops and the *I-Ho Chuan* at Lofa. The translation is from the *N.-C. Daily News*:—

General Nieh and his troops arrived at Lofa by train on the morning of the 5th inst., and seeing a numerous body of armed men holding the line blocking further progress, General Nieh ordered the mob to disperse. When this was unheeded the troops detrained and good-naturedly began pushing the mob away from the line and telling them that the Railway belonged to Government and hence it was foolhardy of them to destroy Government property. But the mob in the rear began to revile the soldiers, crying out that they had been bribed by foreigners to oppress the people and therefore should be dealt with as enemies also. Upon this the mob began, some to throw stones and others to fire their guns and revolvers at the "foreigners" (soldiers) two of whom immediately fell, killed. Even with this provocation the troops, restrained by their officers, refrained from using their bayonets upon the mob until one of their Captains, who had come up to exhort the mob to clear the line, fell mortally wounded by a bullet from the gun of an *I-Ho Chuan* Chief. Then a bayonet charge was made, killing a dozen or so of the mob, who scattered and began firing on the troops from all sides. The order to load was then given, and as the machine guns were being drawn up to the front the troops received two more volleys from the mob, killing six or seven soldiers. Then the troops volleyed again and again and the machine guns began to rattle, tumbling over the mob like chaff before the wind as they made towards their villages. Three more soldiers now fell, and the troops being now thoroughly roused pursued the mob into the

villages, killing and burning without mercy. The result was that four villages were burnt and destroyed and 480 villagers killed. The soldiers lost 12 men and a captain. Quiet reigned throughout the vicinity of Lofa for nearly 48 hours until the decree censuring General Nieh and ordering him to Lutai, near Kaiping, became known; when the *I-Ho Chuan* once more rallied, this time with no one to say them nay any more.

THE "BIG KNIVES" IN THE LIANGKIANG.

The *Daily News* also reports that Viceroy Liu of Nanking has sent instructions to the various yamens under his jurisdiction in the Liangkiang provinces to keep careful watch on the conduct of the members of the *Tatao Hui* or "Big Knife Society," who are known to abound in the vicinity of Kiangyin, Chinkiang, and up the Grand Canal, including Tsingkiangpu and Hsiuchoufu, which is the home of the society. As soon as a suspicious character is arrested and found to be a "Big Knife man" he is to be summarily decapitated without first referring to Nanking for permission. Our contemporary points out that the *I-Ho Chuan* Society is merely an off-shoot of the *Tatao Hui*, the name of *I-Ho Chuan* having been adopted by Shantung and northern members as a cover, the Big Knives being too well known as a revolutionary society. The *I-Ho Chuan* first called themselves "*I-Ho Chuan Hui*," but owing to the character "*Hui*"—a secret society—being obnoxious to the Government and moreover prohibited by law, they dropped the designation "*Hui*," at the Empress Dowager's own suggestion, and assumed the character "*Tuan*"—militia body—as their suffix to "*I-Ho Chuan*." It will be remembered that the Imperial decree of the 6th inst. confirms this by saying that the Society-men "simply trained themselves for self-defence," that is to say were changed from "*Hui*" to "*Tuan*," and therefore innocent of any intention to rebel against the Government.

THE BELGIAN REFUGEES FROM PAOTINGFU.

The *Peking and Tientsin Times* obtained the following narrative from one of the unfortunate Belgian Engineers who have lately escaped from Paotingfu. The story was written in French, and any slight inaccuracies and omissions in it may be attributed to mistranslation and also to the excitement under which such a narrative would naturally be penned. No attempt has been made to describe the sufferings of the party, especially the women, but those who saw the first party arrive, and can imagine what four day's exposure at this season, without food or drink, and being hunted like wild animals, means, will realize how keen those sufferings were. Many of the party were repeatedly wounded with shots, one man having nine such wounds, and it is entirely due to the poor quality of the Boxers' arms and ammunition that so many reached Tientsin alive. The writer states:—

"On Sunday, May 27th, four of us were in the train due at Liu-li-ho at 4 p.m. In the neighbourhood of Cho-how our train stopped. The station master told us the Boxers had destroyed the bridges and the track. We immediately backed the train to Kao-pei-tien where we found 1,903 soldiers under the command of a general, who refused to encounter the Boxers, protesting that he had no orders from his chief on the subject. The train then started for Paotingfu. The following day, 28th, we, seven other engineers and myself, left Paotingfu on a special train at 4 a.m. with materials for repairing the track. On our arrival at Kao-pei-tien, bands of villagers incited by Boxers rifled the train and station, leaving nothing but bare walls. The commander and soldiers supposed to be guarding the place, stood by and saw these acts. On leaving Kao-pei-tien the track presented a lamentable aspect. The sleepers were burnt, the rails torn up and thrown on one side. We had to repair the line for about 12 kilometres and we did not reach Paotingfu till midnight. The next day we all left Paotingfu, under escort, 32 men, 6 women, and one little girl of 3 years. About 3 o'clock we secured twelve sampans, one occupied by the Mandarin Sun, and another by the interpreter Tsing. The former left us the next day about 4 p.m. Orders were given by him to shut in the sampan entirely. On Tuesday at 5 a.m. the Boxers who had been waiting for us in the hills opened fire on the boats, seven of our party being wounded by the volley. The soldiers escorting us

thereupon decamped, and as soon as they were gone the boatmen dropped anchor and refused to go on. We then went on shore and faced the Boxers, and fell back on the plains where we gave them battle, and succeeded in putting them to flight after killing several. We then discovered that four of our party were missing. We reached another river but were followed by the mob. Two of us swam out and secured a boat in which we got the whole party over to the other bank. Before long we discovered another mob on our track, and had to fight some 50 Boxers. About midday we again reached the river. The women were exhausted, the men for the most part demoralized. We had had nothing to eat or drink since we left the evening before. To proceed on foot was impossible.

Though the river was deep and wide and we were much exhausted, two of us swam out again and detached a boat from a bend in the river. We remained in this till 8 in the evening, the strongest of our party going along the bank as an escort. Then we found ourselves between two fires. Behind us came a small mob, while men armed with guns waited us on either bank. We had to fight again, and though we killed several we had to retreat once more to the plains, where we succeeded in keeping up such a murderous fire that the enemy retreated. We stayed thereabouts all night, and started out again the next morning to try and reach Tientsin. Early on Wednesday morning we were three times in contact with the Boxers and each time we killed or wounded many. About midday on nearing a big village, we were obliged to wage a regular battle again, the Boxers numbering more than a thousand and led by a mounted leader who was protected by four gingals. We thought our last hour had come and bid farewell to each other, but the younger men determined to make one more effort. A desperate charge on our part made them abandon their gingals and the mob then fled followed by our shots. Great courage was shown by several members of our party. We then resumed our tramp to Tientsin still some 200 li away. At about 4 p.m. we had repulsed the Boxers several times, but they kept reforming. Each time we killed several of the mob which had the effect of driving them away. In the evening we camped in a marsh after having crossed a small river, and resumed our journey about 3 a.m. We cut the line of the enemy about 4 a.m. and surprised an advance post whose object was to stop our progress. But we routed this detachment and this was the last encounter we had, and finally we reached Tientsin."

THE PROTECTION OF THE YANGTZE VALLEY.

Mr. W. V. Drummond writes to the *North China Daily News* to point out the insecurity of the Yangtze Valley in events of disturbances spreading in that direction. He says:—"Notwithstanding the plain warnings that have been given since the beginning of this year as to the approaching crisis in China, there is at the present moment when the crisis has begun, not one British ship of any size or strength on the Yangtze. The only British ships now on the river are the *Woodcock*, *Woodlark*, *Snipe*, and *Esk*, all of these being diminutive gunboats, and far too small to have any deterrent effect. Here at Shanghai, where there ought always to be a vessel of the *Bonaventure* or *Hermione* class, there will probably be for some days no vessel at all, when the *Hermione* leaves for Weihaiwei on Tuesday next (the 13th inst.), and then her place will be taken by the *Linnet*, a small and ancient gun-vessel, with a speed of about 7 knots only. The *Esk* may also be here, as she is on her way down from Hankow, but as she is only a very small gunboat, and requires about eight days to make the voyage from Hankow to Shanghai, her power, as a protector of British interests, is extremely small."

He continues:—"As British interests so greatly predominate in the Yangtze provinces, and as they are supposed to be politically earmarked as within the British sphere of influence, and as such plain warnings have been given as to their dangerous condition, it might have been taken to be prepared for emergencies, yet, as a fact, it is hardly possible for such vast interests to be more utterly unprotected than they now are. Russian men-of-war have recently arrived here from Port Arthur. There are Russian interests of some importance at Hankow, and in the event of any disturbance

at that port they will probably proceed there, and it is quite possible that they may not wait for disturbances to begin, but may go as a precautionary measure, and as we have no ships sufficient to protect foreign interests, it would be a perfectly reasonable course to adopt. But what a frightful humiliation it will be if British interests on the Yangtze have to look to Russian ships for protection. The Viceroy on the Yangtze, who ought to have had the strongest moral support from the British Government for years past, as well as the certainty of material support from a very powerful ship always close at hand, have been utterly neglected, and the crisis which has been so plainly and rapidly approaching finds the British Government just as completely unprepared for protecting British interests in China as it was last October in regard to British interests in South Africa; and just as ignorant of the real political position of affairs in this country as it was in regard to those in South Africa."

THE EMBARKATION OF THE NORTH CHINA FIELD FORCE.

SOME POINTS FOR CONSIDERATION.

For the conveyance of the native portion of the force—Asiatic Artillery and Hongkong Regiment—the *Hinsang* of 2,412 gross, 1,536 net tonnage, 248 nominal horse power, built in 1890 and belonging to Messrs. Jardine, Matheson and Co., was chartered. Why the *Hinsang* was selected is somewhat of a mystery; judging from what the G. O. C. said in a public place, viz., that the *Hinsang* would start at 5 p.m. on the 14th, ready or not ready, the authorities considered that it was important to get the troops away with the utmost despatch; yet when the *Hinsang* was taken up there were in the harbour, so ship brokers say, four or five other vessels of from two to five knots greater speed open to charter, and of these several are to a non-professional eye more convenient and commodious in every respect.

To fit any ship for the reception of troops an immense deal of work has to be done, and the accommodation to be provided varies greatly with the charter of the troops carried: the fitting required for British troops are not suitable for Indian troops and when Indian troops are embarked, care has to be taken to make provision to meet the various requirements of the different religions, castes or nationalities of the men composing the force. In this case the *Hinsang* had to be fitted with a new wooden main deck, and provision had to be made for carrying both Sikhs and Mahomedans.

To get the work done expeditiously it would seem obvious that the Dock-Yard Officials, on whom the carrying out of the alterations devolved, should be notified at the earliest possible date of the nature of the force to be carried, but on the *Hinsang* a considerable amount of work towards fitting her to take British troops had been actually put in before orders were given that she was to carry Indian troops only and in consequence much gear had to be torn out and work undone.

The scene on board on Tuesday afternoon was one of indescribable confusion; on the main deck and elsewhere were swarms of Dockyard hands working, and working hard too; alongside were lighters and pontoons with stores, ammunition, guns and equipment; lounging on deck and below were dozens of able-bodied coolies, occasionally doing a turn of work, but more usually not; in various parts of the ship might be found officers, Naval and Military endeavouring to get stores, &c., and to reduce chaos to order. But what struck the casual observer most forcibly was that there was no one in charge, no head, no central authority. Not once but many times conversations like the following might have been—may were—overheard. Said one harassed officer to another harassed officer, "How is so and so to be done?" "I don't know, it is not my job." "I know that and it is not mine either, but we must get it done." Then they would go and do it. So the work was done after a fashion, but it meant delay, confusion, inefficient stowing, loss of stores and loss of temper.

In the reports in the home papers of the embarkation of troops and stores for South Africa

officials called "Embarkation Officers" are frequently mentioned as being in charge, and they are spoken of as trained men and their work commended for the smoothness and rapidity with which it was done. It must be presumed from the absence of any like official on Tuesday that Hongkong is too small a place to have on the permanent staff any man to take up this important duty on an emergency, but among the many capable officers who were working on board the *Hinsang*, some of whom apparently had had previous experience of like work, one might have been put in command and the irritating friction and delay inseparable from the absence of definite orders and constituted authority might have been avoided.

It is impossible to say whether with proper organisation the ship could have been got away by the time named, but the fact remains that she did not go then and that the troops which had been ordered to embark at 4 p.m. had to return to barracks. The Asiatic Artillery had been out in camp at Devil's Peak and had struck their camp in the morning. Presumably room was made for them in the other men's barracks, for otherwise they must have passed a singularly uncomfortable night, as, though at 4 p.m. embarkation was ordered for 10 p.m., it was again postponed to 6 a.m. next morning.

What happened at 6 a.m. was veiled in the tremendous downpour of rain which deluged the colony on the 15th inst. but this much is certain, that the *Hinsang* did not leave her moorings till after mid-day and even then had to go without 200 men of the Hongkong regiment for whom room could not be found.

CANTON.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Canton, 16th June.

THE STATE OF THE STREETS.

As one goes into the city of Canton one cannot help noticing that the streets are only just sufficiently wide to allow two chairs to pass, wet and dirty, and blocked with heaps of rubbish, decayed vegetable matter and broken tiles in every nook and corner; and if one does not take a chair or a guide one will probably lose one's way and stray into a locality full of plagues, and if one gets puzzled, and happens to ask one of the celestials the way to Shameen, the latter will very likely point out, with a grin on his face as a sign of politeness to oblige a foreigner, to a direction that leads to another labyrinth. So the Nam Hoi and Pun Yu Magistrates, by order of the prefect She, have jointly issued a notification which says: "As the plague is a disease caused by the corrupt state of the atmosphere it might to some extent be abated by human exertions; so, as a sanitary measure to preserve the health and lives of our people, it is necessary that the places should be kept clean and free from bad smells and accumulations of dirt and decayed matter. The late magistrates have frequently issued orders to have the streets kept strictly clean, but the people paid no regard to them and still continue their habitual practice of storing heaps of broken tiles and dirt in the streets and lanes, the exhalation wherefrom, especially in summer, is injurious to health. So it is necessary that the headmen and *lipaos* of every street should take immediate steps to raise a subscription among the shops and private houses, and employ coolies and scavengers to remove them. Failing to carry out this order they shall be severely reprimanded. Let every one tremble and obey."

ACTORS IN TROUBLE.

On the morning of the 11th inst. some actors took passage on board the S.S. *Honan* to go to Hongkong to perform, taking with them a large quantity of luggage and boxes, and as usual occupying more space than they ought to; so one of the guards on board remonstrated with them. From words they came to blows. The guard was wounded in the head, and four actors were arrested and taken to Hongkong for trial. Two more were subsequently arrested and brought before the British Consul here, who sent them to the Nam Hoi Magistrate to be tried; one turned out to be a military man arrested by mistake, and the other was an actor. The latter deposed that he happened to put his mat in the passage where some cargo was passing, that a foreigner scolded him because he was obstructing the

passage, and taking up his mat, threw it into the sea. He remonstrated with him, whereupon gave him two kicks in the side. He did not strike the foreigner. The magistrate remanded the case for the actor to find security to keep the peace.

A MAGISTERIAL ERROR.

The late acting Magistrate Wong Kee Hang, of the Sun Ning district, was old and weak. At the persuasion of his son-in-law Pun Yam Hin, who seemed to have a great influence over him, and whose palms were itching for bribes as much as any of his yamen runners, he fell into the grave error of releasing over 30 rebels and Thiad Society men from gaol, where they were lately imprisoned for disturbances. These men upon their release from gaol rejoined their associates, and resumed their former career of robbing and plundering, and killed a few detectives. Whereupon the gentry and elders of the district, for fear that the disturbance would go on increasing, came to Canton, and presented a petition to the prefect She, who by order of the Viceroy immediately despatched gunboats and soldiers with orders to make arrests.

BOXER RUMOURS IN CANTON.

There are rumours, which may or may not be true, that in Canton as well as elsewhere there are Boxers who are gathering those bad characters, of whom there are so many ready to join them to carry out their evil purposes. It is stated that in Kwangtung as well as in the province of Kwangsi there are secret societies; under different names, numbering over a few hundred thousand persons scattered over a large area; but for want of money and sufficient ammunition, and a good headman to lead them, they for the present remain in hiding. Although there is no immediate fear here, still the mandarins are on the alert, and if I can glean any further particulars I shall let you know.

A SUCCESSFUL RAID.

In the suburb of See Ui city there were nine houses of ill-fame standing in one row, containing about one hundred girls, besides male and female servants. On the 27th of last month in the evening about 30 pirates, well-dressed, and in the guise of merchants, went in, as though to seek entertainment. Then, firing a revolver shot as a signal, they produced revolvers and swords, and overawing and forcing the masters, mistresses, and servants into a room in each house and locking them up, succeeded in carrying off 57 of the unfortunate girls and taking them away by steam-launch.

ANOTHER PIRACY CASE.

On the 10th inst. a steam-launch, *Kwong Yik*, started from Canton for Waichow with a number of passengers on board, among whom were three merchants who had lately returned from California, and who had taken with them some luggage, valuable clothing, and money to go home with. When the launch reached Shek Lung a number of pirates on board rose from among the passengers, and shouting out "tah," and brandishing their swords and revolvers, proceeded first to ransack the luggage of the three merchant-passengers, and then that of the rest. Just at that time a passenger boat from Waichow happened to pass by: the pirates opened fire on her, and her crew returned the compliment. They kept on fighting for some time, until at last the boat was defeated, her captain being killed and several sailors wounded. The pirates then rushed on board and took whatever they could lay their hands on. Not satisfied with the plunder that they had made they next attacked another boat that was passing by, laden with a cargo of dried shrimps. A mandarin cruiser was coming from a distance, but on seeing the pirates she got scared and turned back.

THE DEPARTURE OF LI HUNG-CHANG.

[FROM THE "CHUN NGOI SAN PO."]

The merchants and all the citizens at Canton are deeply grieved at the intelligence that H.E. Li Hung-chang has been ordered to Peking; to take steps to suppress the riots in the North. It is a fact that H.E. is the far best of all the viceroys that have ever ruled the province of Kwangtung, which suffered much from the corrupt administration by the late viceroy, Tan Chung-lin, who was useless and lazy, and whose squeezing propensities were such that he was nick-named "the bottomless purse." Owing to his

maladministration, the province of Kwangtung, as well as the neighbouring one of Kwangsi has been over-run with rebels, robbers, and pirates, and all sorts of crimes have been committed. Since H.E. Li Hung-chang arrived, he has dismissed nearly all the useless officers and those of "squeezing" habits, and has taken active measures to suppress the bad characters, robbers and pirates, many of whom have suffered the extremity penalty of law. The notorious pirates and robbers, having been overawed by the action of the venerable viceroy, have nearly all fled away or hidden themselves in the mountains fastness. There is a general agreement among the people that if Li Hung-chang continues to occupy the viceroyship for three years, Kwangtung will be the most peaceful province the empire. The merchants and the gentry have filed a petition urging the viceroy earnestly not to proceed to Peking; for if he goes away, they say, the bad characters will most probably take the chance of the Northern crisis to raise rebellions and commit crimes of every description. At present it is not certain whether Li Hung-chang will leave Canton or not, but it is quite certain that he will not go by the *Kwanglee* as has been reported. The Northern crisis is regarded very seriously, and an officer sent from Canton by the Tartar General with a memorial to the Throne has wired to the General from the province of Shantung, saying that he is unable to proceed further on account of the obstruction of the Boxers.

MACAO.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

MACAO, 18th June.

THE PROTECTION OF MACAO

It is really wonderful how coolly our local and home governments are taking the present crisis in the North. It seems as if they were ignorant of the fact that Macao is in China. This great movement, as is well known, has been preparing for a very long time and was bound sooner or later to culminate in something serious. But in spite of this having been patent and of the Government have had more than sufficient time to send out to the colony more troops and some men-of-war (of which at least two more are required in the harbour), nothing whatever has been done. Our Government should have been the first of all to take precautions, and for this reason, that the Portuguese have already had so many lessons. How often before the foundation of the colony did Portuguese merchants attempt to establish a place of shelter for themselves and their ships, only to be left with insufficient troops, badly armed, and at the mercy of rebels and murderous rowdies? Our history shows many instances of this fate, of so many Portuguese in this or that place, having been murdered by the Chinese. It is a great shame that the first nation that came to China should, in this great crisis, leave its nationals entirely forgotten. We don't require to send up troops to save the Legation, but we require them at least to give security for our life and property. The Government should give us a guarantee that those rebels and turbulent peasants who are in our neighbourhood will keep quiet and not one day break out and do us some mischief. Perhaps the Government cannot do so and so is waiting till after the mischief is done before sending help. Our Government is always the same; when the thunder is heard, then it thinks the time is come to fix the lightning-conductor.

AND OF PORTUGUESE SUBJECTS.

Another great scandal is that in this great crisis we have in this quarter only one man-of-war, and, what is still worse, on board there are only the commandant and the purser, all the other officers and the doctor having been sent home by the commandant. This boat is not only intended for service here in this colony, but if Timor requires her service she must go there. The Government should know and does know well that all those China ports open for Europeans are full of His Most Faithful Majesties' subjects. If there comes an urgent call for a man-of-war to go up and to protect Portuguese subjects, how will the Government manage to send up the protecting force—especially if in the meantime Timor were also to break out into a revolution? If the Govern-

ment had been one full of energy, a long time ago in Taku harbour there would have seen the Portuguese flag flying, not with hostile intent but to protect Portuguese subjects only, scattered about in such numbers in these ports.

WHAT SHOULD BE DONE.

The members of the Government Consul should not any longer undertake the responsibility for the security of life and properties in this colony, much less of the lives of Portuguese subjects throughout the China Ports. They should lighten their responsibilities by wiring to the home Government and calling attention to the crisis, asking for immediate help, and not waiting till the new Governor comes to let him then ask for the help required, when, perhaps it may be too late. I hope sincerely that there will be nothing of the kind in our neighbouring provinces that is going on in the North, but this is hardly to be believed, because the spirit of rebellion runs throughout the whole of China.

PREPARATIONS FOR THE FUTURE.

It is also certain that if the disturbance spreads hither the two colonies of Macao and Hongkong will be places of refuge for many families, and with those many suspicious characters will also come. In the colony there is no sufficient force to keep such characters in order. The infantry force here, (so called), is composed mostly of Mahomedans and rickshaw coolies with their pig tails cut off, and a very few Europeans, the latter overworked and almost useless. Does the Government expect the Mahomedans and coolies to impose fear and respect? Mahomedans don't understand their own officers or speak Portuguese, and the Chinese certainly will never go against their own race. If the Government thinks it right to employ these people, and believes they are sufficient to garrison the place, then let them stay, but if not no time should be lost in sending out a full battalion of European soldiers to this colony, which certainly can afford to pay for them.

The revolution having commenced, the Government Council should now stop altogether the exportation of arms and ammunitions into China. Senhor Galhardo caused quite enough scandal during his government on this point, by letting thousands of arms pass through Macao as though he was ignorant on the matter.

MANILA.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Manila, 10th June.

MANILA STIRRED OVER THE CHINESE CRISIS.

The Boer war, the Philippine insurrection, and all other military and naval affairs are shelved, while the interest is daily growing in the crisis that is generally reported to be approaching in North China. The telegrams that have been received in Manila are the merest skeletons of news, and by the time that the local editors have padded them out to make them interesting there is very little reliable information left. Little is known in Manila about China, especially about Tientsin and Peking, and every report that comes along is accepted in blind good faith. The discussions and correspondence of the Hongkong papers are largely quoted in the local newspapers; beyond these there are no sources of Chinese news.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS ORDERED TO CHINA.

That the world believes a crisis is at hand is shown by the fact that two of the greatest news agencies have sent telegraphic orders to their Philippine correspondents to hurry to North China. Oscar King Davis, of the *New York Sun*, and Robert Collins, the London correspondent of the Associated Press, will leave in two or three days for Tientsin. Both have had large experience in handling political situations, and have spent several months in studying the Philippine question. Frederick Palmer, special correspondent of the *New York World* and *Collier's Weekly*, will also leave for China about the fifteenth of the present month. Mr. Palmer contemplates an extended trip into Siberia.

TROOPS FOR CHINA.

The movement of troops from the Philippines to China has been and is being considered. Many papers have printed lengthy discussions on the possibility and advisability of taking troops from the more pacified districts and sending them to Chinese shores for the protection of American interests. The number of marines

on the Asiatic station is limited and if any emergency arises troops will very likely be necessary. Private cablegrams have been received by a Manila correspondent from the European office, instructing him to go to China in the event of American troops being sent there. All these things are indications of the light in which the situation is regarded. Gossip in the clubs and among the foreign population, however, shows very divided opinions. Many hold the affair is merely a "flash in the pan" and that the real explosion has not come. Others assert that the situation will constantly become more serious until the storm that has been promised for the last eight or ten years will break and have itself out.

PHILIPPINE AFFAIRS.

The results of the campaigning of the last week, summed up briefly, show activity a little above the average. Disturbances have been felt in many parts of the archipelago, but principally in central and southern Luzon and Panay Island. The American losses have been nine men killed, including one captain and one lieutenant; twenty-three wounded including two captains; and one captain has been captured. The reported Filipino losses are two hundred and eighteen killed, including two mayors of towns, sixty-three wounded, one hundred and forty two men and one hundred and fifty-nine rifles captured.

A HARD FIGHT.

The toughest fight of the week took place in the Camarines, in South Luzon. Captain Steinhauser, with thirty-one men of the 45th U. S. Volunteer Infantry, was reconnoitring in the vicinity of Daet, when he was attacked by a force of rifle and bolo men. The position was particularly advantageous to the enemy, and before a safe place could be reached, three men had been killed and seven wounded. Captain Steinhauser was seriously shot through both legs and may not recover. Finally the remnant of the detachments charged the insurgents and succeeded in scattering them. In the few minutes thus gained the Americans managed to retreat to the church, carrying their dead and wounded with them. They barricaded doors and windows and prepared for a siege. It was none too soon, for the enemy quickly collected again and returned to the attack. Fighting went on for several days, and food and water were almost unknown. As there was no surgeon with the party, the wounded men were absolutely without surgical aid, and their sufferings were awful. Finally one of the privates, an artificer, volunteered to attempt to pass through the insurgent lines and bring up aid. He stole out of the church at night and after many narrow escapes he succeeded in getting outside the insurgent cordon. Then by dint of the hardest travelling and careful avoidance of the insurgent bands he reached the nearest American garrison and told of the fate of his detachment. Reinforcements were immediately started for the imprisoned men, and after a lively fight the besiegers were driven off. When the church was at last opened, there was less than a quart of water left for the outfit, wounded men and all. The insurgent loss is unknown.

Manila, 20th June, 9.30 p.m.

[BY TELEGRAPH.]

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT BY U.S. PRESIDENT.

President McKinley announces that ninety days amnesty is granted to armed Filipinos and their sympathisers, thus giving them an opportunity to surrender and declare allegiance to the United States Government.

The Count and Countess de Galemberg left Foochow by the *Haeslin* on the 10th inst. for a holiday trip. The Count has been acting Deputy Commissioner of Customs for the last two years and was accorded a most enthusiastic send-off. Foochow has telegraphed congratulations to the Count and Queen to Lord Roberts on the occupation of Pretoria, receiving a message of sincere thanks from Her Majesty. The first prize at the Foochow Gun Club's competition on the 6th inst. was won by Mr. C. L. Howell, the second by Mr. G. L. Greig. The first of the new season's tea left Foochow for London on the 11th inst.

THE TRANSVAAL WAR FUND.

H. E. the Acting Governor has courteously sent to us for publication a copy of the following letter from the Lord Mayor of London to the Governor of Hongkong:—

The Mansion House.

London,

April 3rd. 1900.

Sir,—I have to-day received through the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation the final instalment of £7,309 11s. 8d. of the subscriptions raised among the community at Hongkong for the Transvaal War Fund, making with the first a total of £14,809 11s. 8d.

I shall be grateful to Your Excellency if you will kindly take an opportunity of conveying to the donors my sincere and cordial thanks and of assuring them that their manifestation of their sympathy to the sufferers by the War has been greatly appreciated in this country.—I have, etc.,

ALFRED J. NEWTON,
Lord Mayor.

His Excellency Sir H. A. BLAKE, G.C.M.G.,
Governor of Hongkong.

HONGKONG VOLUNTEER CORPS.

KOWLOON DETACHMENT.

The fourth competition for the "Gillies" Cup took place on the Association Range. The best scores were:—

Names.	200 yds.	400 yds.	500 yds.	H'cap.	Total
Sergeant Butter	28	32	31	5	96
Gunner Stewart	30	33	32	—	95
Gunner Rattey	31	34	25	—	90
Gunner Baldwin	27	34	28	—	89
Gunner Lapsley	33	27	24	2	86
Bomb. Deas	28	24	20	14	86

"C" MACHINE GUN COMPANY.

The monthly picnic of "C" Machine Gun Company, H.K.V.C., took place on the 17th inst. when splendid weather was enjoyed. The party was accompanied by Major Chapman, F.B., and Lieutenants Stewart and Underwood. The launch left Murray Pier at 11.45 and sailed to Cap-simun. Tiffin was enjoyed on board and Stone Cutter's Island was reached between 2 and 3 o'clock. On the way to Stone Cutter's Instructor Rorke gave an interesting lecture on gun mechanism, which was highly appreciated. The usual shoot took place at Stone Cutter's, the conditions being seven shots at each of the 200 and 500 yards ranges, Bisley scoring. The light was favourable for good scoring. The following are a few of the best scores:—

	200.	500.	H'cap.	Total.
* Sergt. Smillie	25	26	5	56
* Gunner Shoobred	24	20	11	55
* Sergt. Stewart	23	19	12	54
* Gunner C. Lee	23	18	12	53
Gunner McCorquodale	21	24	7	52
Bomb. Gloyn	24	17	11	52
Gunner Galbraith	18	18	14	50
Bomb. Baillie	23	16	10	49
Gunner J. Lee	22	14	13	49
Gunner S. Gidley	20	18	7	45

*Previous Spoon Winners.

The Chinese villagers through whose country the Paotingfu refugees passed seem in some cases to have been well-disposed to the foreigners, but were too afraid of the Boxers to give any assistance. In an account of the flight published in *L'Echo de Chine* it is related that on the third day of the journey, about 3 o'clock, a village was reached when a fair was proceeding, and the natives regarded the Belgians more with curiosity than with enmity. "When the Boxers came up with us again," continues the narrative, "the multitude of carts which we had seen disappeared as if by magic. Whether the owners feared the rebels' threats or were unwilling to take part in any action against us, we do not know. The Boxers were constantly trying to get us attacked by the villagers, who remained neutral. Exasperated, they recommenced the pursuit. Again we had recourse to our arms. Several Boxers were mortally wounded. We could judge the feelings of the crowd, for the fall of an enemy was greeted with ironical hurrahs by the villagers."

OCCASIONAL NOTES.

The Food Supply Commission has been industriously taking voluntary evidence of the rise in the price of food stuffs and though their report is not likely to prove of much utility it will be read with a great deal of interest. Unless the colony is placed, under, say martial law, i.e. the will of the administrator, it is really not easy to see how anyone is going to impose a fixed price for food stuffs, especially when we depend for our supply on the caprices of the foreign producers. Who is going to prevent the Cantonese farmers from selling their potatoes at so much a picul extra, or the cattle-dealers from putting up the price of oxen, if they so desire?

Now an important factor in the increased price of provisions, perhaps after all the most important—and this is a tip for the Commissioners who may have overlooked it—is that it is not the local consumption so much as outside consumption that has increased the price of food. For instance they are feeding in the Philippines a hungry campaigning army of 60,000 Americans, and the rations of an American soldier are somewhat different to those of his predecessor, the Spaniard. It is quite true that the American commissariat wisely get most of their meat and vegetables from Australia and tinned provisions from America—but they do not get it all. This is Hongkong's misfortune. So that if our Commissioners—who are doubtless by now authorities on the market price of turnips and beans, and can give the average housewife a few points—do not pooch-pooch this idea they may, with the enthusiasm characteristic of local Commissions, enquire and be satisfied. Only recently there was a dearth of potatoes in the Philippines—in fact the American army, I am informed, went without potatoes for a week. Telegrams were flying up and down the China coast for potatoes, with little avail, and those Chinese who had stocks, like Joseph with his corn, held on till prices went up and then made a good thing out of it.

Not only does this apply to potato-consuming Americans, but also to Russians. It is well known that the Russians, even at Vladivostok, get all their fresh food from North China, principally Chefoo, but with the tremendous increase in garrisons, it may become a question as to whether the China ports can continue to supply this part of the Far East. Certainly the increased demand will mean increased prices, and if this Boxer rebellion is going to spread and the celestial grower of vegetables is going to drop the hoe to take up the spear the prospect of a reduction in the cost of living is very remote.

So much for the food supply; but that is not alone the cause that makes dollar-spending a cheerful duty in Hongkong. The average individual can submit to a monthly extortion of a few cents by our mutual friend the comprador, but it is the jump of 100 per cent in the rent that makes one collapse. This is a matter that a Special Commission could deal with, and at least two members of the Legislative Council, who are flourishing landlords, might be induced, as the representatives of a submissive and long suffering people, to give evidence on rents and their periodical increase. Their evidence would be so valuable—the situation, too, would be so interesting.

The departure of troops from Hongkong to assist in crushing the Boxer rebellion or smashing the Manchu dynasty, whatever it may ultimately turn out to be, raises a very important point. That is, the question of the equipment of our force. If the Hongkong men are only going to do battle with Boxers all well and good—a Martini-Henry rifle is an excellent match for a Chinese jingal, and a R. M. L. 7 pounder battery may not be unfairly equipped against a Chinese battery of brass muzzle-loading cannon. Therefore against the invulnerable Boxers the force should do very well indeed.

But are the combined forces going to meet Boxers, or Boxers and Imperial soldiers combined? Are they prepared for eventualities?

Judging from the latest report, General Nish's men have joined the rebels and in that case very different men from murderous rowdies or fanatical peasants will have to be dealt with. The Transvaal War has taught the British how under-equipped we were compared with our adversaries when we first took the field. If the Hongkong force has to meet the Imperial foreign-drilled troops the same fatal mistake will have been repeated.

To put a battery of 7 pdr. muzzle-loading cannon against the numerous magnificent Krupp field batteries with which the Chinese Imperial foreign-drilled troops are armed would be suicidal. Then the Chinese infantry are armed with the latest pattern Mauser magazine rifle against the Martinis of our Indians. The writer has seen the Chinese foreign-drilled troops in the last war and in a recent rebellion—small though it was, and they did excellent work. The constant drilling by Continental instructors of picked men that form the foreign-drilled brigades, since the Chino-Japanese war, have produced an army that, even in numbers alone will more than prove a match for the present much too small body of allied troops. Therefore it behoves those in command to see that our men are not altogether outclassed in equipment, and any initial mistakes should promptly be verified. It is to be hoped that after all the Boxers will prove the only adversaries.

[Since the above was written we learn that Captain Scott will mount four naval 12 pdrs.—Ed.]

OBSERVER.

REVIEW.

Village Life in China. By ARTHUR H. SMITH, D.D. Oliphant, Anderson & Ferrier, Edinburgh & London.

We have received from Messrs. Kelly & Walsh a copy of Dr. A. H. Smith's *Village Life in China*. The author of *Chinese Characteristics* has succeeded in the difficult task of producing a second book on Chinese life no less interesting and instructive than his first. "Whatever helps to a better understanding of Chinese people," he says, "is an aid to a comprehension of the Chinese problem." Such an aid Dr. Smith's volume most undoubtedly is, and though it may not be possible to agree with all his conclusions the value of his facts and suggestions is incalculable. The picture he draws of life in the innumerable villages of China is for the most part a depressing one as viewed from without by foreign eyes. To watch this life intimately is, as Dr. Smith explains, a task of almost unsurmountable difficulty. "If we wish to comprehend the Chinese," he says, "we must take the roof from their homes, in order to learn what is going on within. This no foreigner can do. But he can imitate the Chinese who apply a wet finger to a paper window, so that when the digit is withdrawn there remains a tiny hole through which an observant eye may see at least something."

Dr. Smith has much to say of the almost indescribable squalor, dirt, and discomfort of the great mass of villagers' homes; of the construction of the houses, the utter lack of shelter from the sun, for the most part, outside; the smoky, ill-ventilated atmosphere, the swarming animal life and the collection of articles of every description inside; the so-called roads, miserably inadequate to start with, and becoming by a steady process of evolution canals; the ferries, constructed apparently with the view of causing the greatest possible inconvenience and expense to travellers; and all the thousand and one minor trials with which the Chinese villager puts up. With the chapters which the author devotes to village education we reach one of the most interesting parts of the book. As he explains, the prominent place given to education in China renders the Chinese village school an object of more than common interest, for in their schools by far the majority of the educated men of the empire receive their first instruction. And yet, "thoughtful Chinese teachers, familiar with the capacity of their pupils, estimate that the most intelligent among them cannot be expected to understand a hundredth part of what they have memorized. The

great majority of them have about as accurate a conception of the territory traversed as a boy might entertain of a mountainous district through which he had been compelled to run, barefooted and blindfolded in a dense fog, chased for vast distances by a man cracking over his head a long ox-whip. How very little many scholars do grasp of the real meaning, even after explanations which the teacher regards as abundantly full, is demonstrated by a test to which here and there a master subjects his scholars, that of requiring them to write down a passage. The result is frequently the notation of so many false characters as to render it evident, not only that the explanations have not been apprehended, but that notwithstanding such a multitude of perusals, the text itself has been taken only into the ear as so many sounds, and has not entered the mind at all.

And again:

"There is very little that is intellectual in any part of the early schooling of an ordinary Chinese boy. As a rule, the teacher does not concern himself with his pupils further than to drag them over a specified course, or at least to attempt to do so. The parents of the lad are equally indifferent, or even more so. At his home the pupil has no mental stimulus of any sort, no books, magazines or papers, and even if he had them, his barren studies at school would not have fitted him to comprehend such literature."

The two things which the pupil is sure to learn, says Dr. Smith, are obedience and a habit of concentrating attention on the work before him, to the disregard of all distractions—"valuable acquirements," he continues, "although they can scarcely be termed an education." We should like to quote more of Dr. Smith's remarks on village schools and to devote some attention to his chapter on "Higher Education," but considerations of space will not permit this, so that we must be content with recommending this chapter very strongly to the reader's notice. The brief educational reform introduced by the Emperor in the summer of 1898 and upset by the Empress Dowager in September of the same year is just touched on. Time was not given for any real test of the new method, and we must wait for the deposition of the Dowager, now, we hope not, far off, for this trial to be made. Whatever may be the result, the new method of education cannot but be an improvement on the old.

We must pass over Dr. Smith's chapters on Religious Observances, Co-operative Societies, Weddings and Funerals, etc., etc., but we will stop to give a short quotation on domestic life from the chapter on "Village Boys and Men."

"Of that sympathy for childhood as such [says the author], which is so distinguishing a part of our modern civilisation, an average Chinese father has no conception whatever. By this is not meant that he is not fond of his children, for the reverse is most palpably true. But he has no capacity for entering into the life of a child, and comprehending it. His fondness for his children is the result of the paternal instinct, and is not an intelligent and sympathetic appreciation of a mind of a child." [This, however, the author will hardly, we should think, venture to say is confined to China; it is not a matter of race, but of sensibility or temperament]. . . . "Taking it in on all around survey there is very little in the life of a village boy to excite one's envy. . . . He learns obedience and respect for authority, and he learns to be industrious. But of intellectual independence, he has not the faintest conception or even a capacity of comprehension. He does as others do, and neither knows nor can imagine any other way. If he is educated, his mind is like a subsoil pipe, filled with all the drainage which has even run through the ground. A part of this drainage came, it is true, from the skies, but it has been considerably altered in its constituents since that time; and a much larger part of it is a wholly human secretion, painfully lacking in chemical purity. In any case this is the content of his mind, and it is all of its contents."

In his early years the Chinese boy enjoys, says Dr. Smith, "what, viewed from the experience of a decade later, must appear to him a condition of supreme happiness." The joy at the birth of a male child secures him this. As he grows up, this happy state passes away.

But if the man's life after infancy is not a bright one, it is infinitely better than that of the women. The account given by the author of the condition of the average woman in China is most gloomy. He mentions that the wife of a Taotai even told a foreign lady that in her next existence she "hoped to be born a dog, that she might go where she chose!" A popular saying declares that "a Daughter with the virtues of the eighteen Lo-Hans is not equal to a splay-footed son." With female infanticide, sale of daughters, foot-binding, isolation from the pleasures of life, severe drudgery—and not least, subjection to the rule of a mother-in-law, Dr. Smith draws a miserable picture of Chinese women's existence. She is best off, it seems, when she is a shrew. "If," he says, "A Chinese woman has the heaven-bestowed gift of being obstreperous to such a degree that, as the sayings go, 'people do not know east from west'; that 'men are worn out and horses exhausted'; that 'the mountains tremble and the earth shakes,' this is unquestionably her surest life-preserver." If such an endowment has been denied her, her next best resource is to pursue a course exactly the opposite, in all circumstances and under all provocations *holding her tongue*." He continues: "The present condition of woman in China is a heritage of the remotest past. The essence of the Chinese classical teaching on this subject is, that women is as inferior to man as the earth is inferior to heaven; and that she can never attain to full equality with man."

Dr. Smith concluded his book with a chapter entitled "What can Christianity do for China?" Being a missionary, we are not surprised to find him sanguine on this point, for it requires a stock of zeal and enthusiasm to carry the proselytizer along his difficult path of the conversion of the Chinese. What can Christianity do for the Chinese family, asks Dr. Smith? What for the Chinese boy and girl?

"In the first place it can take better care of them. The dense and impenetrable ignorance which sacrifices so large a proportion of Chinese infants during the first two years of their life, might perhaps be counteracted in other ways, but it is probably safe to predict that it never would be. To the Chinese girl the practical introduction of Christianity will mean even more than to her brother. It will prevent her from being killed as soon as she is born, and will eventually restore her to her rightful place in the affections of her parents. . . . It will make (a Chinese) a new man with a new insight and a new outlook. It will give back his lost soul and spirit, and pour into all the avenues of his nature new life. There is not a human relation in which it will not be felt immediately, profoundly, and beneficently."

And so on. Dr. Smith pleads his case eloquently, and we have no wish to deny his conclusions. But it is open to question whether the author does not attribute too much of the present degradation of China to the state of its religious beliefs. Economic conditions are at least as potent a factor in the situation. The evolution of a race is modified but not reversed by its religion, and the Oriental races so far have preferred to develop without accepting the creed of the West. Dr. Smith deprecates an estimate of the effect of Christianity on the Chinese character until enough time has been allowed to elapse to demonstrate the case fully. He has himself no doubt and concludes with the words: "There are in China many questions and many problems, but the one great question, the sole all-comprehending problem, is how to set Christianity to work upon them, which alone in time can and will solve them all."

Detective Grant has returned to the colony from Shanghai, having handed the German Ulbricht, who was wanted there for embezzlement, over to the authorities.

An *Asahi* telegram, dated Seoul, 9th June, says:—"Mr. Pak, the Korean Minister for Foreign Affairs, has paid a visit to Mr. Hayashi, the Japanese Minister, and expressed the apology of the Korean Government in regard to the An and Won question. The Japanese Minister, it is believed, may no longer press the matter. The affair is understood to have now been settled." In this case Japan seems to be easily satisfied.

HONGKONG.

Mr. Paul Sachse, of Messrs. Carlowitz & Co., has received from H. I. M. the Emperor of Germany the order of the Red Eagle, IVth class.

On the 16th inst. the Chartered Bank received the following telegram from Mr. Whitehead, who has reached Irkutsk on his overland journey through Siberia:—"The journey through Siberia hitherto from Vladivostok interesting, but rough, discomforts considerable, cold weather during the night; expect to arrive St. Petersburg 10 or 12 days hence."

While searching the passengers on board the *Powan*, prior to her departure for Canton on the 16th inst., an European police sergeant found a tally-man in the employ of Messrs. Butterfield and Swire in possession of two bundles of letters, which he was carrying up to Canton to evade postage. The Sergeant took the man to the Central Police Station and charged him with infringing the privilege of the Postmaster-General. Mr. Hazeland said there was too much of this work going on, and he was determined to do what he could to stop it. The defendant was fined \$100.

While on board the *Wing Fuk* on the 15th inst. Sergeant Terret noticed a Chinaman—an ex-lukong—dragging a boy on board. Asked for an explanation the man said he had bought the boy for \$15 and was taking him to his house at Namtao. The boy told the officer that he had been brought from Pakhoi, and that he did not want to go with the man to Namtao. When questioned by Mr. Hazeland at the Magistracy on the 16th inst., however, the boy said he was willing to accompany the man, and under these circumstances the charge of bringing the boy into the colony for the purpose of emigration fell to the ground.

At the Magistracy on the 19th inst., before Mr. Hazeland, a German clerk residing at the Peak was charged with unlawfully assaulting P. C. F. Culliford (123) while in the execution of his duty. The defendant denied the charge.—The Constable said: Yesterday at 11.30 p.m. I was on duty in Ship Street. I went to speak to a man who had fallen out of a rickshaw, intending to charge him. The defendant rushed up to me and struck me in the chest, saying, "I will not allow any b——English policeman to take my German friend to the Police Station." I arrested him for doing so.—In answer to the defendant, the witness said: When I arrested the defendant he struggled and I tore his coat.—Lance-Sergeant Sim (42) said: Last night at 12 o'clock the defendant was brought to the Police Station by the last witness. He was locked up and created a disturbance in the cells. He had been drinking.—The defendant said he had nothing to say.—A fine of \$25, or two months, was imposed.

At the Magistracy on the 19th inst. Mr. Hazeland had before him some more men charged with infringing the Post Office Ordinance. In one case the culprit was a messenger named Wong Chin. P. C. Dymond said that on Monday he received information that letters were being conveyed from Hongkong to Macao and from Macao to Hongkong in connection with the letter hongs by one of the crew of the steamship *Heungshan*. He accordingly went on board the vessel and saw the defendant there with a bag containing letters in two bundles, one bundle being stamped and the other unstamped. He spoke to the defendant and asked him whom he was going to take the letters to and he pointed to one of the crew, who declined to take them. The defendant then attempted to thrust the letters among some parcels, and witness arrested him.—The defendant said he intended to hand the letters to a clerk on board.—A fine of \$100, or two months, was imposed.—Yeung Yam, a hawker, was similarly dealt with for a like offence, he being found on board the *Heungshan* by P. C. Dymond with a parcel of letters in his possession. Lee Hing and Chong Ki Hong, who had just returned from America, were charged with committing a breach of the Post Office Ordinance by bringing letters into the colony, and they were further charged with being in illegal possession of arms. In the one offence they were each fined \$100, or two months, and for the other \$5 each.

The *N. C. Daily News*, noting that Mr. W. J. Solly, recently chief clerk in the Hongkong Post Office, is appointed British Postmaster at Shanghai, says "Reforms and improvements will, we trust, now follow."

The 20th inst. being the anniversary of the accession of Her Majesty Queen Victoria a royal salute was fired at noon by the war vessels in the harbour. British ships were dressed to celebrate the occasion.

At the Magistracy on the 19th inst. Mr. Hazeland continued his investigation into the circumstances connected with the attack on the *Fook Sang* near Castlepeak on the 13th May. Three men have been arrested. In the first instance they were charged with being concerned in an armed attack, but on the application of Chief Detective Inspector Hanson the charge was altered to one of piracy. The *Fook Sang* had on board a chest of opium in addition to other cargo. This, which was valued at \$1,000, was carried off, together with other property of the value of \$1,000.

On the 15th inst. Hongkong witnessed one of the heaviest rain-storms seen for many years—according to one resident the heaviest since 1889—and the whole town was in a state of flood, with lakes in the lower portions and waterfalls and torrents in the upper. The storm broke over the city early on the 15th inst., continuing almost unabated until getting on for ten o'clock, when it slackened somewhat. In many cases great boulders were brought down the hill-side and some of the roads were absolutely cut up and washed away in large patches. Over the banking walls in Caine Road, of the insecurity of which we wrote in April last and which were afterwards strengthened, a miniature Niagara was running, which would certainly have carried away any weaker structure. The bridge over the nullah which runs past Murray Barracks and through the Naval Yard seemed to be seriously threatened at one time by the furious waters beneath, while the harbour was discoloured for a long distance out from shore by the mud brought down by them. Shelley Street was rendered almost impassable by the bursting of a drain, and deep ruts were washed into Castle Road. In the lower levels several places of business were flooded, including the premises of the Robinson Piano Company and Kruse's Cigar Store. At Hung Hom an immense stone which had been loosened by the rain dashed into the blacksmith's shop at the Docks, and destroyed a number of crucibles.

An enquiry was opened at the Magistracy into the circumstances connected with the collapse of a building in Des Vœux Road the other week, when one man was killed and another injured. A third storey had been added to the building. The wall does not seem to have been strong enough to hold it, for it gave way and the men in question were buried, one of them however managing to extricate himself. An apprentice joiner said that on the 20th May he was working on the top floor of a house between Si Wo Lane and Des Vœux Road, West Point, with some other workmen, when the building gave way. One of the joiners was killed and witness sustained various injuries which necessitated his being sent to the Hospital. The building had had another storey added to it.—Mr. Xavier, architect and surveyor, submitted a report as to the cause of the accident. He said that the accident consisted in the giving way of the party wall between two houses. He was of opinion that this wall collapsed on account of the absence of cross walls. The buttresses and poles were not strong enough. The building was kept from collapsing before by the joists.—His Worship: I suppose if there had been a European architect the thing would never have happened?—Mr. Xavier: No.—His Worship: Then the sooner it is the law that buildings should be superintended by a European architect the better. I suppose the men did not know any better?—Mr. Xavier: No; they simply went the easiest way to do the work. Any man can submit plans, and if they are in accordance with the Building Ordinance nothing can be done.—His Worship: As far as carrying out the work is concerned he can do it as he likes?—Mr. Xavier: Yes.—His Worship informed Inspector Baker, who had charge of the enquiry that he understood the matter. He would read Mr. Xavier's report and let him know whether he thought any further action should be taken.

As a rickshaw was running along Caine Road on the 15th inst. an old woman was knocked down by the coolie, and one of the wheels of the vehicle ran over her head. She was badly hurt, losing a considerable quantity of blood. The rickshaw man refused to stop. The old woman was sent home to Wanchai in a chair.

At the meeting of the Terrible Reception Committee which was held on the 14th inst., it was decided that the balance of the fund, which is estimated roughly to amount to \$1,000, should be handed over to Captain Percy Scott, R.N., C.B., in order that he may devote it for the benefit of the crew of the *Terrible* in such ways as he may think fit.

At the Magistracy on the 15th inst. two bar-boys employed at the Soldiers' Club, Queen's Road East, were charged with larceny. Mr. Tirrel, the manager, said that he had missed money from the bar-till of late, and suspecting the defendants he followed them on their leaving the club on Thursday night, and some money was found on them. One of the boys was discharged but the other, who admitted having stolen 40 cents, was sentenced to two months' hard labour.

Another lamentable shooting accident in the harbour was reported at the Central Police Station on the 20th inst. It occurred on the No. 2 police launch early in the morning. A European police constable had taken up a Winchester rifle which he thought was not loaded. While examining it the piece went off. The bullet struck a board and then caught a Chinaman in the abdomen, inflicting a serious wound. The man was taken to the Hospital, where he died at midnight the same day.

At one a.m., on the 21st inst., a fire broke out in a tobaccoist's shop at 237, Queen's Road West. It was caused by the over-heating of a tobacco-drying cupboard. Word was conveyed to No. 7, Police Station and Inspector Baker and some firemen made their way to the scene of the outbreak with a despatch box containing hose-pipes. The flames were, however, extinguished by the inmates of the shop. The damage will probably not exceed \$120. The premises are insured by Messrs. Siemens and Co. for \$5,700.

On the 20th inst. a special session of Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace was held at the Magistracy for the purpose of considering an application from one Nowrojee Bhicape Moolla for the transfer of his publican's licence to sell and retail intoxicating liquors on the premises situate at house No 30, Bulkeley Street, under the sign of "The Hunghom Hotel" to one Cowasjee Hormasjee Sanga. There were present Mr. F. A. Hazeland (presiding), Deputy Captain Superintendent Badeley, and Mr. C. A. D. Melbourne. There was no police objection, and the application was granted unanimously.

The evidence against the keeper of the emigration house at 46, Connaught Road, and his two *fokis* has been concluded and Mr. Hazeland has given his decision. A coolie who had been brought over to Hongkong was staying at the boarding house in question, and because he refused to go on to Singapore a disturbance ensued, the coolie being ultimately thrown down the stairs. He was found in a state of collapse by a Chinese constable, who on learning what had taken place went upstairs to interview the master, when he was set upon by the latter and two of his *fokis*. The master was sentenced to four months' hard labour for assaulting the coolie, and for attempting to rescue their master from the hands of the constable the *fokis* were sentenced to a month's hard labour. Each of the defendants was fined \$10 for assaulting the constable when in the execution of his duty.

COMMERCIAL.

SILK.

CANTON, 8th June.—Silk.—Tsatlees.—No settlements are reported for Europe, but there being a good demand for Bombay, and the prospects for the second crop being poor, prices maintain their own, although they are about \$60 per picul relatively higher than Filatures. Re-reels.—No transactions have transpired. Filatures.—A fair business has been done, but prices continue weak and irregular. A good part of the 800 bales settled for Europe was last season's Silk. From prices paid we quote: \$805 for Kwong Shun Cheong 11/13, \$780 for Sam Yu Ye 9/11, \$760 for

King Lun Tai 9/11 and Yee Wo Loong 9/11; \$750 for Kwong Sun On 11/13, Sai Sill Lun 10/12 and Kai Sun Cheong 13/15, \$745 for Yut Cheong Wo 10/12, \$710 for U' Hau Cheong 24/28 and 28/32; \$690 for Victoria 16/20, \$875 for Yee Wo Lun 11/13, \$640 for Min Lun Cheong 18/22, and Quan Hing 11/13 and 13/15. Short-reels.—A good business has been done for America during the first part of the fortnight, \$750 having been paid for Kun Lun Cheong, Yu King and equivalent chops, \$710 to 680 for No. 2 chops. Waste.—Prices nominal; practically nothing done. We append quotations in Canton, with laying down cost in London and Lyons, Exchange 4 months' sight, 1/11½, and Ecs. 2.50½ per Dollar:—

CAMPBOR.

HONGKONG, 22nd June.—The price is going downward, market being weak. Quotations for Formosa are:—\$91.00 to \$91.50; sales 250 piculs.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 22nd June.—The prices are declining, the market being very dull. Quotations are:—

Shekloong, No. 1, White.....	\$7.75 to \$7.80	picul.
do. " 2, White.....	7.15 to 7.20	"
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown ...	5.30 to 5.35	"
do. " 2, Brown ...	5.15 to 5.20	"
Swatow, No. 1, White.....	7.80 to 7.85	"
do. " 1, White.....	7.20 to 7.25	"
Swatow, No. 1, Brown ...	5.20 to 5.25	"
do. " 2, Brown ...	5.10 to 5.15	"
Foochow Sugar Candy	11.65 to 11.70	"
Shekloong "	9.95 to 10.00	"

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per German steamer *Hamburg*, sailed on the 30th May. For Suez:—5 cases tea and 3 cases bamboo fans. For Alexandria:—1 box tea. For Smyrna:—10 cases essential oil. For Naples:—20 rolls matting. For Genoa:—95 bales raw silk, 22 rolls matting, 10 cases essential oil, 7 bales waste silk and 1 case Chinaware. For Trieste:—209 boxes tea, 25 cases staranised and 11 chests tea. For New York:—45 cases essential oil. For Genoa/Antwerp Hamburg:—5 cases essential oil. For Antwerp:—291 bales bamboo scraps, 234 bales feathers, 78 rolls matting, 40 bales canes and 7 cases Chinaware. For Antwerp/Hamburg/London:—30 cases bristles. For Amsterdam:—40 rolls matting and 20 bales canes. For Bremen:—489 rolls matting, 275 boxes and 64 chests tea. For Bremen/Hamburg:—300 boxes tea. For Hamburg:—2,591 boxes tea, 900 bales cassia, 524 bales feathers, 69 chests tea, 50 cases staranised, 40 cases essential oil, 41 bales canes, 22 rolls matting, 10 cases sundries, 9 cases human hair, 9 cases furniture, 9 cases palm leaf fans, and 1 case paper. For Hamburg/Antwerp:—20 bales rattanshaving.

Per P. & O. steamer *Coromandel*, sailed on the 27th May. For London:—3,209 boxes tea from Foochow, 115 bales raw silk, 30 cases bristles, 1 case bird skin, 1 case bird feathers, 2 cases silks, 699 boxes tea, and 140 bales canes. For Marseilles:—75 bales raw silk, 100 bales waste silk, 2 cases feathers, 1 case silks, and 25 packages canes. For Lyons:—236 bales raw silk. For St. Etienne:—15 bales raw silk. For Manchester:—245 bales waste silk. For New York:—10 bales raw silk.

Per British ship *George T. Hay*, sailed on the 29th May. From Hongkong for New York:—16,393 packages crackers, 6,957 rolls matting, 3,050 bales cassia, 1,470 bales rattan-core, 807 packages merchandise, 693 bales straw-braid, 425 boxes and 50 casks ginger, 471 cases blackwoodware, 380 packages canes, 200 cases heather brushes, 116 cases strawcuffs, 100 cases joss sticks, 100 casks soy, 75 cases paper, 52 cases Chinaware and 12 cases teasticks.

Per steamer *Patroclus*, sailed on the 2nd June. For London:—545 boxes tea (particulars unknown), 7,144 bales hemp, 110 bales and 200 packages canes, 307 rolls mats, 237 casks copra, 20 bags and 116 cases shell, 33 cases cigars, 24 cases bristles, 527 cases preserves, 20 cases essential oil, 315 cases Chinaware, 45 cases blackwoodware and 27 packages sundries. For London opt. Manchester:—225 bales waste silk. For London opt. Hamburg:—255 bales canes, 80 cases bristles and 25 aniseed oil. For London opt. Hamburg opt. Antwerp:—100 bales feathers. For London opt. Amsterdam opt. Rotterdam opt. Hamburg:—750 boxes tea. For Manchester:—225 bales canes and 128 bales

waste silk. For Glasgow:—4 cases curios. For Antwerp:—150 bales split bamboo. For Havre:—1 case shell. For Hamburg:—4 cases shell.

Per steamer *Sarnia*, sailed on the 12th June. For Havre:—1 case China ink, 2 bales string, 3 cases feathers, 3 bales bambooware, 10 cases shells, 18 cases blackwoodware, 71 cases Chinaware, 98 cases human hair, 130 cases tea, 184 bales canes, 221 bales split bamboos and 496 rolls matting. For Havre and/or Hamburg:—1 case ylang ylang, 5 cases lanterns, 7 cases Chinaware, 7 cases crackers, 9 cases human hair, 10 cases lith paper, 20 cases blackwoodware, 20 cases bristles and 647 rolls matting. For Havre and/or Hamburg and/or London:—27 bales feathers, 30 cases bristles and 1,490 cases camphor. For Havre and/or Hamburg and/or Antwerp:—75 cases bristles. For Havre and/or Hamburg and/or Antwerp and/or London:—14 cases feathers and 105 cases bristles. For Havre and/or Hamburg and/or New York:—12 cases bristles. For Bordeaux:—412 bales mats. For Hamburg:—1 case private effects, 1 case preserves, 1 case camphor trunks, 1 case Chinaware, 1 case copper gongs, 1 case curios, 2 cases sundries, 4 cases blackwoodware, 5 cases camphor oil, 15 cases human hair, 20 cases bristles, 30 cases staranised, 45 cases essential oil, 427 rolls matting, 468 cases camphor, 771 bales canes and 1,460 bales feathers. For Hamburg and/or Antwerp:—38 cases bristles. For Hamburg and/or London:—20 cases essential oil and 139 packages canes. For Hamburg and/or Antwerp and/or London:—75 cases bristles. For Hamburg and/or Bremen:—27 rolls matting. For Bremen:—3 cases curios. For Antwerp:—5 cases sundries and 120 packages canes. For Amsterdam:—13 cases Chinaware. For London:—20 cases essential oil. For Lisbon:—8 cases Chinaware.

OPIMUM.

HONGKONG, 22nd June.—Malwa.—The market has been quiet during the week and rates are about \$10 lower all round.

2 year's at \$910.

2 " at \$920.

4/5 " at \$930/40.

Bengal.—At the commencement of the fortnight moderate sales were effected at \$1,020 for both New Patna and Benares for spot cargo, and \$997½/1,000 for Patna and \$1,008 for Benares ex 6d. sale. At the close, however, there is a quieter feeling in the market, and the Chinese are waiting to hear what the Indian Government is going to declare for sale next year before resuming business. A small lot of Old Patna and Old Benares changed hands at \$1,085 and 1,045 respectively.

Persian.—Some business has transpired in fine quality at \$880/900.

Stock.—Patna 803, Benares 238, Malwa 522½ Persian 2,224.

COURSE OF THE HONGKONG OPIUM MARKET.

DATE.	PATNA.		BENARES.		MALWA.	
	New.	Old.	New.	Old.	New.	Old.
1900.	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
June 16	997½	1,085	997½	1,045	880	910/40
June 18	997½	1,085	997½	1,045	880	910/40
June 19	997½	1,085	997½	1,045	880	910/40
June 20	997½	1,085	997½	1,045	880	910/40
June 21	997½	1,085	997½	1,045	880	910/40
June 22	997½	1,085	997½	1,045	880	910/40

COTTON.

HONGKONG, 22nd June.—Only a small lot of superior quality was put through at reduced rates; medium and interior are neglected. Stock, about 4,000 bales.

Bombay,	21.50 to 22.50 picul.
Kurrachee,	— to — "
Bengal (New), Rangoon,	21.50 to 23.00 "
and Dacca,	— to — "
Shanghai and Japanese,	25.00 to 26.00 "
Tungchow and Ningpo,	25.00 to 26.00 "
Madras (Best.),	— to — "
Sales: 250 bales.	

YARN.

Mr. P. Eduljee says in his Report, dated Hongkong, 22nd June.—Contrary to expectation, a change for the worse has overtaken this market, and the trade throughout the fortnight has been passing through a period of unusual depression. Dealers are holding almost entirely aloof, no reasonable offers whatever are obtainable, and it

is impossible to do business unless at a considerable sacrifice to importers. The principal factors at work are the recent relapse in the values of Japanese spinnings, the rapid forcing up of prices in the interior by native dealers, which is now resented by country buyers, and the feeling of insecurity and uncertainty attaching to the serious political disturbance in Peking. In revising our quotations we regret to report any allround decline of about \$4 per bale. Even these prices are difficult to obtain, and in the near future we fully expect to see a lower range of values ruling. The market closes very quiet and depressed, with quotations more or less nominal and business at a complete standstill.

Japanese Spinings.—A heavy drop of \$1 to \$3 per bale has to be noticed in these threads, and sales of about 800 bales, No. 20s. superior, favourite chops are reported as under: say 200 bales Kanegafuchi and 150 bales Shensu at from \$101 to \$100; 100 bales Hirano at \$100½, 50 bales Ashai at \$100, and 300 bales Settsu at from \$102 to \$99, market closing very weak and quiet.

Raw Cotton.—Importers of Indian descriptions have come down in their ideas of values and a concession of \$1 to \$2 per picul has induced business in 200 bales superfine machine-ginned Bengal at from \$22 to \$22½, leaving stock of about 4,000 bales on the market, which closes very dull. No sales have been reported in other kinds. Quotations are Bengal \$18 to \$23, Rangoon \$17 to \$22, and China \$25 to \$26.

Exchange on India closes to-day at Rs. 146½ for T/T and Rs. 147 for Post. On Shanghai T/T 71½. From Shanghai the undiminished restricted business has been reported in Indian, Japanese and Local spinnings during the fortnight ending 17th instant, viz.—

Indian.—Total sales 4,926 bales, comprising 3,392 bales No. 10s., 180 bales No. 12s., 220 bales No. 16s., and 1,136 bales No. 20s., prices showing a decline Tls. 1½ and market closing weak with very gloomy prospects owing to the serious political situation in Peking. Estimated unsold stock about 54,000 bales.

Japanese.—Total sales 2,000 bales on the basis of Tls. 70 to 71½ for No. 1cs. and Tls. 73 to 74½ for No. 20s., prices showing a decline of two to three Taels and market closing weak. Estimated unsold stock about 20,000 bales.

Local.—Total sales about 5,000 bales on the basis of Tls. 67 to 70 for No. 10s., 68 to 72 for No. 12s., Tls. 69 to 73 for No. 14s. and Tls. 70 to 74 for No. 16s., market closing very weak and prices showing a decline of 4 to 5 Taels.

RICE.

HONGKONG, 22nd June.—Some demands having come forward from the mainland, the prices are going up. Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary	\$2.90 to 2.95
" Round, Good quality	3.10 to 3.15
" Long	3.30 to 3.35
Siam, Field mill cleaned, No. 2	3.05 to 3.10
" Garden, " No. 1	3.40 to 3.45
" White	4.10 to 4.15
" Fine Cargo	4.30 to 4.35

COALS.

HONGKONG, 22nd June.—Sales of Cardiff at quotations. Quotations are:—

Cardiff	\$26 to 428 ex godown
Australian	\$14.00 to \$14.50 ex godown, nominal
Yubari Lump	\$11.00—ex godown
Miki Lump	8.00 to 8.50 nominal
Moji Lump	6.50 to 8.50 ex ship, steady
Hongay double	11.50 to \$12 ex godown
screened	—
Hongay Lump	8.00 to 8.50 ex ship
Hongay Dust	5.50 — "
Briquettes	14.60 — ex godown

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 22nd June.—Among the sales reported during the week are following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS.—Bombay Yarn:—1,200 bales No. 10 at \$86 to \$92, 650 bales No. 12 at \$90 to \$94, 250 bales No. 16 at \$95.50 to \$97, 1,200 bales No. 20 at \$98 to \$102.

METALS.—Quicksilver.—150 piculs at \$170.90 to arrive, 50 flasks at \$89. Lead:—200 piculs new mark at \$10.10.

COTTON YARN—	per bale
Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20s.	\$ 77.00 to \$102.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24.	114.00 to 120.00
" 22 to 24.	116.00 to 122.00
" 28 to 32.	120.00 to 133.00
" 38 to 42.	147.00 to 154.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS—

Grey Shirtings—6 lbs.	2.00 to 2.10
7 lbs.	2.20 to 2.25
8.4 lbs.	2.75 to 3.60
9 to 10 lbs.	3.70 to 4.65

White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd.	2.55 to 2.75
58 to 60 "	3.00 to 3.75
64 to 68 "	4.00 to 4.75
Fine	5.00 to 7.75
Book-folds	4.35 to 6.25
Victoria Lawns—12 yards	0.75 to 1.50
T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y.	1.65 to 1.80
7lbs. (32 ")	1.90 to 2.10
6lbs. (32 "), Mexs.	1.80 to 2.00
7lbs. (32 ")	2.35 to 2.70
8 to 8.4 oz. (36 in.)	2.70 to 3.40
Drills, English—40 yds., 14 to 16 lbs.	4.10 to 7.00

FANCY COTTONS—

Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 8 lbs	1.70 to 7.00
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Brocades—Dyed	4.20 to 5.20
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per yard

Chintzes—Assorted	0.08½ to 0.17
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Velvets—Black, 22 in.	0.26 to 0.65
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Velveteens—18 in.	0.23 to 0.28
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per dozen

Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk	0.40 to 2.50
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WOOLLENS—

Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops.	0.90 to 1.70
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German	— to —
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Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths	1.55 to 1.75
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per piece

Long Ells—Scarlet	6.70 to 10.30
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Assorted	6.80 to 10.40
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Camlets—Assorted	12.50 to 21.00
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Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches, Assorted	11.50 to 22.00
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Orleans—Plain	8.50 to 10.00
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per pair

Blankets—8 to 12 lbs.	4.20 to 16.00
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METALS—

per picul

Iron—Nail Rod	5.75 to —
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Square, Flat Round Bar (Eng.)	5.75 to —
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Swedish Bar	7.75 to —
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Small Round Rod	6.00 to —
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Hoop ½ to 1½ in.	6.25 to —
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Wire 15/25	9.00 to —
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Old Wire Rope	2.50 to —
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Lead, L. B. & Co. and Hole Chop	10.25 to —
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Australian	10.10 to —
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Yellow M'tal—Muntz	14/20 oz. 41.00 to —
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Vivian's	14/20 oz. 40.50 to —
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Elliot's	14/20 oz. 40.00 to —
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New Chop, 14/20 oz.	— to —
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Composition Nails	60.00 to —
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Japan Copper, Slabs	39.00 to —
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Tin	78.00 to —
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per box.

Tin-Plates	7.75 to —
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per cwt. case

Steel ½ to ¾	7.00 to —
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SUNDRIES—

per picul

Quicksilver	168.00 to —
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per box.

Window Glass	6.50 to —
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per 10-gal. case

Kerosene Oil	2.86 to —
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CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

FRIDAY, 22nd June.

EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—

Telegraphic Transfer	1/11½
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Bank Bills, on demand	1/11½
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Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/11½
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Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1/11½
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Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/11½
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Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	2/0
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ON PARIS.—

Bank Bills, on demand	2.46½
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Credits, at 4 months' sight	2.50½
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ON GERMANY.—

On demand	2.00
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ON NEW YORK.—

Bank Bills, on demand	47½
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Credits, 60 days' sight	48½
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ON BOMBAY.—

Telegraphic Transfer	146½
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Bank, on demand	147
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ON CALCUTTA.—

Telegraphic Transfer	146½
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Bank, on demand	147
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ON SHANGHAI.—

Bank, at sight	71½
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Private, 30 days' sight.....	72½
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand.....	3½ p.c. pm.
ON MANILA.—	
On demand.....	2½ p.c. pm.
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand.....	1½ p.c. pm.
ON BATAVIA.—	
On demand.....	117½
ON HAIPHONG.—	
On demand.....	3 p.c. pm.
ON SAIGON.—	
On demand.....	2½ p.c. pm.
ON BANGKOK.—	
On demand.....	60
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate.....	10.13
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael.....	52.75
BAR SILVER, per ox.....	27½

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 22nd June.—The market, which had been slowly but surely improving for some time, has received another set back by the crisis in the North of China and a week of inactivity with falling rates has to be reported.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have been quite neglected and without business, the rates quoted during the week being quite nominal. The London rate fell to £55 early in the week, on account of the political outlook in China, which fall quickly effected this market. At time of closing shares are obtainable at 310 per cent. prem. Nationals have been placed in small lots at quotation.

MARINE INSURANCES.—China Traders have changed hands at \$54 but close firmer with buyers at \$55. Cantons could be placed at \$13.2½ but none seem to be obtainable. Unions after small sales at \$262½ close with sellers at \$265. Straits continue quiet and without business. In the absence of local business quotations for the Northern Insurance are taken from the latest Shanghai circulars.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs continue on offer at \$295 with a small business. A few Chinas have changed hands at \$79.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong Canton and Macao were negotiated in the early part of the week at \$31½ and later at \$31¼ and \$31, closing quiet at the last rate. Apprehension of the trouble up North spreading to the South and causing interference with the river traffic appears to be the chief cause for the weakness. Indo-Chinas have been placed at \$85 and more are obtainable at the rate. Douglases remain on offer and are obtainable at \$47½ without finding buyers. China and Manila New Issue is procurable at \$18, whilst the old shares remain steady at \$65. China Mutual Preferences have been placed at \$11. Star Ferries are on offer at \$17½ old, and \$4½ new.

REFINERIES.—Both China Sugars and Luzons continue quite neglected with no business to report except a small sale of the former at \$122.

MINING.—Punjoms remain quiet with only a small business at \$6.10 and \$6.15, closing quieter at \$6 sellers. Queen's are almost out of the market. Jelobus ruling steady have changed hands at \$13¼ and 12, and Raubs at \$58. Olivers and Great Easterns neglected and almost without business.

DOCKS, WHARVES AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks—a small business is reported at \$530, market closing at the more or less nominal rate of \$525. Kowloon Wharfs have been placed in unimportant lots at \$86, closing quieter at \$85. Wanchais have found buyers at \$66. New Amoy Docks without business but weaker at \$21.

LANDS, HOTELS AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have ruled fairly steady in the early part of the week. With small sales at \$139 for cash and \$142 for August. Market close, however, quieter with small sellers at \$137. Hotels have eased off a little and unimportant sales have been effected at \$123½, closing with sellers at \$123. Kowloon Lands are obtainable in small lots at quotation. West Points are

enquired for in a small way at \$47½. Humphrey's estates have been placed at \$10.60 and \$10.75, closing with sellers at the latter rate.

COTTON MILLS.—Hongkongs remain unchanged and without business. In the absence of local sales quotations for the Northern Mills are taken from the last Shanghai Circulars.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Green Islands have been dealt in to some extent at \$21½, for cash, and \$23¼ and \$23½ for December, market closing steady at \$21½. China Borneos are still enquired for without bringing any shares on the market. Watsons have ruled quieter with sales at \$15.75. Ices have changed hands at \$165. Dairy Farms at \$8½. China Providents at \$9.90 and Watkins at \$10. Campbell and Moore after the issue of a satisfactory report have improved to \$20.

Closing quotation are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai.....	\$125	310 p. ct. prem. =
China & Japan, ordy.....	£4	£1.
Do. deferred.....	£1	£5 5s.
Natl. Bank of China.....		
B. Shares.....	£8	\$27, buyers
Foun. Shares.....	£8	\$20.
Bell's Asbestos E. A.....	£1	\$14, sellers
Campbell, Moore & Co.....	\$10	\$20, buyers
China Prov. L. & M.....	\$10	\$9.90, sellers
China Sugar.....	\$100	\$122, sales
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo.....	Tls. 100	Tls. 60.
International.....	Tls. 100	Tls. 60.
Laou Kung Mow.....	Tls. 100	Tls. 60.
Soychee.....	Tls. 500	Tls. 375.
Yahloong.....	Tls. 100	Tls. 40.
Hongkong.....	\$100	\$37, sellers
Dairy Farm.....	\$6	\$8½, sales
Fenwick & Co., Geo.....	\$25	\$48, sellers
Green Island Cement.....	\$10	\$214, sellers
H. & C. Bakery.....	\$50	\$50.
Hongkong & C. Gas.....	£10	\$127.
Hongkong Electric.....	\$10	\$11.85, sales & sels.
H. H. L. Tramways.....	\$100	\$2.10.
Hongkong Hotel.....	\$50	\$170, buyers
Hongkong Ice.....	\$25	\$123, sellers
H. & K. Wharf & G.....	\$50	\$165, sales & sels.
Hongkong Rope.....	\$50	\$85, sellers
H. & W. Dock.....	\$125	\$170.
Insurance—		
Canton.....	\$50	325 p. ct. prem. =
China Fire.....	\$20	[\$781.25, buyers
China Traders'.....	\$25	\$132½, sales
Hongkong Fire.....	\$50	\$70, sales & sellers
North-China.....	\$25	\$55, buyers
Straits.....	\$20	\$295, sellers
Union.....	\$50	Tls. 165.
Yangtze.....	\$60	\$1, buyers
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv.....	\$50	\$262½.
Humphreys Estate.....	\$10	\$121, sellers
Kowloon Land & B.....	\$30	
West Point Building.....	\$50	\$187, sellers
Luzons Sugar.....	\$100	\$10.75, sellers
Mining—		
Charbonnages.....	Fcs. 250	\$30, sellers
Gt. Estn. & C'donian.....	\$3	50 cents
Do. Preference.....	\$1	40 cents
Jelobu.....	\$5	\$12.
Queen's Mines Ltd.....	25c.	\$17, buyers
Olivers Mines, A.....	\$5	\$3.
Do. B.....	\$4½	\$24.
Punjom.....	\$7	\$6, sellers
Do. Preference.....	\$1	\$1.30.
Raubs.....	16s. 10d.	\$58, buyers
New Amoy Dock.....	\$6½	\$21, buyers
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila.....	\$50	\$65, sales old
China Mutual Pref.....	£10	\$18, sellers
China Ordinary.....	£10	\$11, sales
Do.....	£5	\$10 10s, sellers
Douglas Steamship.....	\$50	\$5, 5s., buyers
H., Canton and M.....	\$15	\$47½, sellers
Indo-China S. N.....	\$10	\$31, sellers
Shell Transport and } Trading Co.....	£100	\$85, sellers
Star Ferry.....	\$10	\$210.
Tebrau Planting Co.....	\$5	(\$17½, old sellers
Do.....	\$3	(\$4½, new sellers
United Asbestos.....	\$4	\$5, sellers
Do.....	\$10	\$8½, sales
Wanchai Warehouse.....	\$37½	\$11, buyers
Watkins, Ltd.....	\$10	\$58, buyers
Watson & Co., A. S.....	\$10	\$10, sales
		\$15½, buyers

J. Y. V. VERNON, Broker.

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 22nd June.—The volume of business transacted during the period under review is larger than that of the preceding fortnight.

From Saigon to Hongkong, rates have advanced to 25 cents per picul; to Philippines 47 cents per picul is obtainable; to Java no demand. Java to this port, steamers are wanted at 37½ cents per picul, wet sugar. Newchwang to Canton, 40 cents per picul is offered. Moji to Hongkong, \$3.10 per ton; to Singapore, \$3.20 per ton. Time charters. A large number of steamers have been chartered on time for delivery end of this year and early next year, at very high rates. Sailing vessels.—Two vessels have been fixed to load here for New York at about 17s. 6d. per ton. The American ship *Abner Coburn* and Norwegian bark *Passepartout* have left in ballast for Puget Sound under orders from owners.

The following are the settlements:—

Norwood—British ship, 1,597 tons, hence to New York, private terms.

Saranac—British bark, 1,027 tons, hence to New York, private terms.

Benvenue—British steamer, 1,468 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$3.10 per ton.

Thales—British steamer, 820 tons, two trips, Hongay to Hongkong, \$2 per ton.

Yoko Maru—Japanese steamer, 894 tons, Newchwang to Canton (15,000 piculs), 44 cents per picul.

Else—German steamer, 903 tons, Newchwang to Canton, 44 cents per picul.

Kweiyang—British steamer, 1,062 tons, Saigon to two ports Philippines, 50 cents per picul.

Holstein—German steamer, 1,153 tons, Saigon to one port Philippines, 47 cents, two ports 51 cents per picul.

Tetartos—German steamer, 1,812 tons, Saigon, to Cebu (32,000 piculs), 47 cents per picul.

Kutsang—British steamer, 1,481 tons, Cebu and Nolo to Yokohama, 35 cents per picul.

Decima—German steamer, 794 tons, Pakhoi to Langkat Pass, \$10 each.

Sishan—British steamer, 845 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 22 cents per picul.

Crown of Arragon—British steamer, 1,474 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 24 cents per picul.

Petrarch—German steamer, 1,252 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 24 cents per picul.

Benmohr—British steamer, 1,035 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 25 cents per picul.

Tiger—Norwegian steamer, 2,116 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, \$17,200.

Deuteros—German steamer, 1,001 tons, hence to Touron and back, \$325 per day.

China—German steamer, 1,271 tons, monthly, 12 months, \$7,800 per month.

Piccola—German steamer, 875 tons, monthly, 12 months, \$5,500 per month.

Holstein—German steamer, 1,103 tons, monthly, 4 months, \$7,600 per month.

Marie Jepsen—German steamer, 1,771 tons, monthly, 6 months, \$10,000 per month.

Pronto—German steamer, 719 tons, monthly, 12 months, \$6,000 per month.

Amoy—German steamer, 732 tons, monthly, 12 months, \$6,500 per month.

Nanyang—German steamer, 1,060 tons, monthly, 12 months, \$6,750 per month.

Amigo—German steamer, 822 tons, monthly, 12 months, \$7,000 per month.

Sullberg—German steamer, 782 tons, monthly, 12 months, \$7,200 per month.

Tritos—German steamer, 1,033 tons, monthly, 12 months, \$8,000 per month.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

FOR LONDON.—*Clyde* (str.), *Benalder* (str.), *Antenor* (str.), *Stentor* (str.), *Menelaus* (str.).

FOR MARSEILLES.—*Laos* (str.), *Inaba Maru* (str.).

FOR BREMEN.—*Oldenburg* (str.).

FOR HAVRE AND HAMBURG.—*Silesia* (str.), *Wittenberg* (str.), *Savioia* (str.), *Sambia* (str.).

FOR VICTORIA, B.C.—*Glenogle* (str.).

FOR VANCOUVER VIA SHANGHAI.—*Empress of India* (str.).

FOR PORTLAND, O.—*Argyll* (str.).

FOR SAN FRANCISCO.—*Gaelic* (str.), *America Maru* (str.), *City of Peking* (str.).

FOR NEW YORK.—*Albenga* (str.), *Armenia* (str.), *Acara* (str.), *Ettrickdale* (str.), *J. B. Walker*.

FOR SAN DIEGO AND KOBE.—*Thyra* (str.).

FOR AUSTRALIA.—*Australian* (str.), *Futami Maru* (str.), *Chingtu* (str.).

FOR BOMBAY VIA SINGAPORE AND COLOMBO.—*Hiroshima Maru* (str.).

FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG AND CALCUTTA.—*Suiang* (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

June—
ARRIVALS.
 15, Chowtai, British str., from Bangkok.
 16, St. Quentin, British str., from Barry.
 16, Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
 16, Szechuen, British str., from Tongku.
 16, Sydney, French str., from Marseilles.
 16, S. Rickmers, British str., from Swatow.
 16, America Maru, Jap. str., from S. Francisco.
 16, Deuteros, German str., from Saigon.
 16, Victoria, British str., from Japan.
 17, Albenga, German str., from New York.
 17, Asama, British str., from Manila.
 17, Fausang, British str., from Hongay.
 17, Hating, French str., from Haiphong.
 17, Indus, French str., from Shanghai.
 17, Meefoo, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 17, Siam, British str., from Bangkok.
 17, Benlmond, British str., from Singapore.
 17, Hunan, British str., from Chinkiang.
 18, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 18, Petrarch, German str., from Saigon.
 18, Stentor, British str., from Liverpool.
 18, Chingwo, British str., from Moji.
 18, Min, British str., from Moji.
 18, Pyrrhus, British str., from Liverpool.
 18, Trym, Norwegian str., from Newchwang.
 18, Tientsin, British str., from Canton.
 18, Esmeralda, British str., from Cebu.
 18, Hikosan Maru, Jap. str., from K'notzu.
 18, Bonaventure, British cruiser, from Manila.
 19, Empress of India, Brit. str., from Vancouver.
 19, Choyang, British str., from Canton.
 19, Hangchow, British str., from Canton.
 19, Hailoong, British str., from Tamsui.
 19, Kwaiso Maru, Jap. schr., from Moji.
 19, Wingsang, British str., from Shanghai.
 19, Wakasa Maru, Jap. str., from Singapore.
 19, Chunsang, British str., from Canton.
 19, Taicheong, German str., from Saigon.
 20, Hiroshima Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.
 20, Suisang, British str., from Calcutta.
 20, Australian, British str., from Kobe.
 20, Chinkiang, British str., from Canton.
 20, Kong Beng, British str., from Bangkok.
 20, Seang Loong, British str., from Singapore.
 20, Maidzuru Maru, Jap. str., from Tamsui.
 20, Glenshu, British bark, from Kobe.
 20, Emma Luyken, German str., from Canton.
 20, Decima, German str., from Newchwang.
 20, Hailan, French str., from Pakhoi.
 20, Michael Jensen, Ger. str., from Haiphong.
 21, Kweiyang, British str., from Canton.
 21, Ningpo, British str., from Canton.
 21, Kwongsang, British str., from Canton.
 21, Kwangse, British str., from Tientsin.
 21, Yorihome Maru, Jap. str., from Keelung.
 21, Clyde, British str., from Shanghai.
 22, Kaifong, British str., from Iloilo.
 22, Anping, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 22, Valetta, British str., from London.
 22, Wingsang, British str., from Canton.
 22, Stanfield, British bark, from Rajang.
 22, Haiching, British str., from Coast Ports.
 22, Pique, British gunboat, from Singapore.
 22, Otter, British torpedo-boat destroyer, from Devenport.
 22, Hoihao, French str., from Pakhoi.
 22, Meefoo, Chinese str., from Canton.
 22, Szechuen, British str., from Canton.
 22, Trym, Norwegian str., from Canton.
DEPARTURES.
 15, Kansu, British str., for Canton.
 16, Hinsang, British str., for Tientsin.
 16, Terrible, British cruiser, for Taku.
 16, Undaunted, British cruiser, for Taku.
 16, Progress, German str., for Tournon.
 16, Thales, British str., for Hongay.
 16, Formosa, British str., for Swatow.
 16, Szechuen, British str., for Canton.
 16, Emma Luyken, Ger. str., for Canton.
 16, Socotra, British str., for London.
 17, Shantung, British str., for Amoy.
 17, Haimun, British str., for Swatow.
 17, Tamsui Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.
 17, Holstein, German str., for Saigon.
 17, Charterhouse, British str., for Amoy.
 17, S. Rickmers, British str., for Foochow.
 17, Kiangsi, Chinese str., for Chinkiang.
 17, Victoria, British str., for Haiphong.
 17, Sydney, French str., for Shanghai.
 17, Trieste, Austrian str., for Yokohama.
 18, Indus, French str., for Europe.
 18, Bittern, British sch., for Rajang.
 18, Meefoo, German str., for Canton.

18, Hanoi, French str., for Haiphong.
 18, Tientsin, British str., for Shanghai.
 18, Trym, Norwegian str., for Canton.
 18, Daphne, British sloop, for Taku.
 18, Loongmoon, German str., for Shanghai.
 19, Independent, German str., for Newchwang.
 19, Coptic, British str., for San Francisco.
 19, Haitan, British str., for Swatow.
 19, Stentor, British str., for Shanghai.
 19, Kagoshima Maru, Jap. str., for Moji.
 19, Loongsang, British str., for Manila.
 19, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Canton.
 19, Hunan, British str., for Canton.
 19, Taicheong, German str., for Swatow.
 19, Hangchow, British str., for Shanghai.
 20, Hating, French str., for Hoilow.
 20, Pyrrhus, British str., for Shanghai.
 20, Menmuir, British str., for Manila.
 20, Chinkiang, British str., for Taiwanfoo.
 20, St. Andrews, Norw. str., for Saigon.
 20, Wittenberg, German str., for Yokohama.
 20, Choyang, British str., for Shanghai.
 20, Chowtai, British str., for Swatow.
 20, Wingsang, British str., for Canton.
 20, Hainan, German str., for Chefoo.
 20, Apenrade, German str., for Hoilow.
 20, Don J. de Austria, Amr. g-bt., for Canton.
 20, Sandakan, German str., for Sandakan.
 21, Albenga, German str., for Shanghai.
 21, Siam, Danish str., for Shanghai.
 21, Wakasa Maru, Jap. str., for Kobe.
 21, Cedarbank, British 4-m. bark, for Portland.
 21, Deuteros, German str., for Tournon.
 21, Siam, British str., for Swatow.
 21, Tetartos, German str., for Saigon.
 21, Ningpo, British str., for Shanghai.
 21, Germania, German str., for Saigon.
 21, Esmeralda, British str., for Manila.
 21, Kwangse, Chinese str., for Canton.
 21, Decima, German str., for Canton.
 21, Rosario, British g-bt., for Shanghai.
 22, Seang Leong, British str., for Amoy.
 22, Kwongsang, British str., for Shanghai.
 22, Keongwai, British str., for Bangkok.
 22, Hiroshima Maru, Jap. str., for Bombay.
 22, Chingwo, British str., for London.
 22, Benlmond, British str., for Nagasaki.
 22, Asama, British str., for Java.
 22, Benmohr, British str., for Saigon.
 22, Anping, Chinese str., for Canton.

PASSENGERS LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Kagoshima Maru*, from Bombay, &c., Miss J. J. Efford and baby.
 Per *Haitan*, from Coast Ports, Messrs. Smates, Hines and Pichel.
 Per *Sydney*, for Hongkong, from Bombay, Mr. F. Maridge; from Colombo, Messrs. T. Magalhães Menezes, Pedro de Jusmao, T. Grant; from Marseilles, Mr. E. Kreil; from Batavia, R. Van Dorrtter; from Singapore, Messrs. Spencer Pratt, R. G. S. Buckland, F. Bonnet; from Marseilles, Mr. Carreez; for Shanghai, Dr. Vengarten, Mr. and Mrs. Sanft and child, Mr. Buegne, Messrs. Malaise, Oscar, Hanges, Guffens, Chin, Pastzkowski, L. Ming-shout, Ed. Nuller, L. Matchkuzan, D. Manfroy, Nicolas Cetu, Pierre Atteline, Maurice Guerin, Henri Madier, Jules Mathien, Beany, Dechanyes, Miss Isabelle Fett, Mrs. and Miss Mitlia, Mr. Coche; from Saigon, C. T. Smith; for Nagasaki, from Singapore, Mrs. Sonayama Hatsu, Mr. B. Mijakawa; from Marseilles, twenty-eight Marines; for Kobe, from Singapore, Mr. Y. Hakajima; from Saigon, Messrs. Caahaico, Oturu, Nacahata; for Yokohama, from Marseilles, Messrs. Askinton, Mottez, Bousses; from Singapore, Mr. A. S. Hay.
 Per *Siam*, from Bangkok, Mr. Chas. Coy.
 Per *Meefoo*, from Shanghai, for Canton, Mr. Semleanksy and Capt. H. Sleeman.
 Per *America Maru*, from San Francisco, &c., Mr. E. Rodgers, Mrs. H. L. Nason, Mr. J. W. Taylor, Miss K. McIsaac, Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Gynlay, Dr. E. de Grane, Mr. W. Baruth, Mrs. Tormey, Miss M. Tormey, Miss J. Tormey, Miss E. Townsend, Mrs. J. W. Heard and five children and Mr. J. H. Downs.
 Per *Indus*, for Hongkong, from Yokohama, Messrs. A. Hygon, Young and son, Uchida, Myasaki and Kyofugi; from Shanghai, Messrs. Rosenfeld and Jnesab, Miss Griffith, Mr., Mrs. and Miss Carvalho, Messrs. J. Lavail, Krimbosch,

Troscha, Emandin, John Grant and Pestre Ryves for Saigon, from Shanghai, Mrs. Wishert and Mr. Shindo; for Singapore, from Yokohama, Dr. Nakagama; from Kobe, Messrs. Horiwata and L. Rode; from Nagasaki, Mrs. Hachida; from Shanghai, Messrs. Kou, Shiama and Hameer Chand; for Bombay, from Yokohama, Mr. Limbreta; for Marseilles, from Yokohama, Mr. Takikuchi, Dr. Yamane, Messrs. Sarazin, Tank, Krassnoff, Mr. and Mrs. Tillier and Mr. Shimazo Hato; from Kobe, Messrs. H. Merecki, Nagano and J. Mitchoff; from Shanghai, Messrs. Wuillemier, Fuhrmerster, J. de Cordon, Graillet, J. Morrison, Rouget and Gourier.
 Per *Stentor*, from Singapore, Mr. William and 256 Chinese.

Per *Min*, from Moji, Mr. J. E. C. Broom.

Per *Empress of India*, for Hongkong, from Vancouver, Mr. D. E. Brown, Miss Batchelor, Mr. J. E. Carbonell, Mrs. C. W. O'Neil, Mr. and Mrs. Fontaine, Mr. Ching Sing Foo, Mr. J. Hammond and Mr. and Mrs. Woodhead; from Yokohama, Capt. A. W. Benley, Mr. C. H. W. Kew, Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Robertson and Capt. Bancroft; from Nagasaki, Mr. Arlt and Lieut. R. T. Ballard; from Shanghai, Messrs. D. Glass, Lee San Yat and E. Detrick, Mrs. Neilsen and child.

Per *Hailoong*, from Tamsui, &c., Mrs. Graydonald and son, Messrs. Elizaga Ozcorio and Roese.

Per *Wingsang*, from Shanghai, &c., Mr. Kieber.

Per *Wakasa Maru*, from Singapore, Messrs. Brown and Cochrane, Mr. and Mrs. Redford.

Per *Maidzuru Maru*, from Tamsui, &c., Mr. Matsumoto and 200 Chinese.

Per *Clyde*, from Shanghai, for Penang, Mrs. Getley, Misses Getley (2), infant and ayah; for London, Messrs. G. C. Haworth and A. McAlister, Misses Patterson and Norden, Messrs. W. Ferguson, J. S. Erskine and Duncan.

Per *Anping*, from Shanghai, Mr. F. Hamm.

Per *Haiching*, from Coast Ports, Miss Rosario, Messrs. Satton, Reynolds and Bryson.

Per *Kaifong*, from Iloilo, Mrs. Nordey, Messrs. Domendar, Florencio, Elleterino, Jarronillo, Benjamin, Estreban Jalondoni and Ganderincio Albayol.

DEPARTED.

Per *Sydney*, from Hongkong, for Shanghai, Messrs. E. A. Carolan, E. Folsom, G. Kelly, S. O. Gelansky and M. Poliohoff, Mrs. S. Shafer, Mrs. J. Klaiman and Mrs. F. Yong.

Per *Indus*, from Hongkong, for Saigon, Messrs. R. J. Mulkern and E. L. Comar; for Singapore, Mr. C. Browne; for Batavia, Dr. E. Crane; for Aden, Lieut. Pessarra Gonveia; for Marseilles, Messrs. E. Pasquet, W. Paxton, Robertson and Rev. F. M. Guerria.

Per *Coptic*, for Amoy, Mr. Stephens; for Shanghai, Capt. C. G. Bowman, Mr. and Mrs. P. E. O'Brien, Miss O'Brien and amah, Miss Weatherston, Messrs. von Oertzen, F. Palmer, E. W. McGrath and S. J. Brown; for Kobe, Mr. Fraser; Yokohama, Lieut. T. F. Lyons, Messrs. A. H. Pol Wz, A. D. Dupius and F. E. Duncan; for San Francisco, Messrs. Wm. Klein, Joseph Miu and E. Epperly.

Per *Loongsang*, for Manila, Messrs. Geo. G. Shaw, H. C. Graves, Jr., D. E. Mead, Henry Loy, James Logan, Lieut. R. V. Ballard, Mr. Ciriacco Arevalo, Mrs. Feliza Montes, Misses Waldron and Drew, Mrs. L. Griffith, Mrs. A. J. Nichols, Miss Muriel Onslow, Mr. Antonio Hidalgo, Master Hidalgo and Mr. C. A. Davis.

Per *Menmuir*, for Manila, Mr. and Mrs. F. X. d'Almada e Castro, Miss Nakamura, Mrs. M. F. Souza, Mr. Henry Humphreys, Master M. P. Marcaida, Mrs. Willard, Mrs. Mercer and infant, Mrs. Nason, Mrs. J. W. Heard, four children and infant, Miss Townsend, Messrs. Ed. Kriel, W. Baruth, J. W. Taylor, Mrs. Tornz, Misses Tornz (2), Miss McIsaac, Mrs. Weir, Messrs. R. F. Gray, M. Lizarraga, J. Weir, W. A. Stopani, K. Harakawa, K. Nagai, Y. Harada, M. G. Dearce, W. Hirota, A. Fajardo, C. B. Morton, E. Revoso and J. Santos.

Per *Esmeralda*, for Amoy, Mr. and Mrs. Redford; for Manila, Messrs. J. Fevez, J. Kamacho, Lohmann, G. W. Brown, W. H. Brown, G. Lopez, J. B. Calbert, Luis Ruiz and Mrs. D. Drew.

Printed and published by ALFRED CUNNINGHAM for the Concerned, at 9, Praya Central, City of Victoria, Hongkong.